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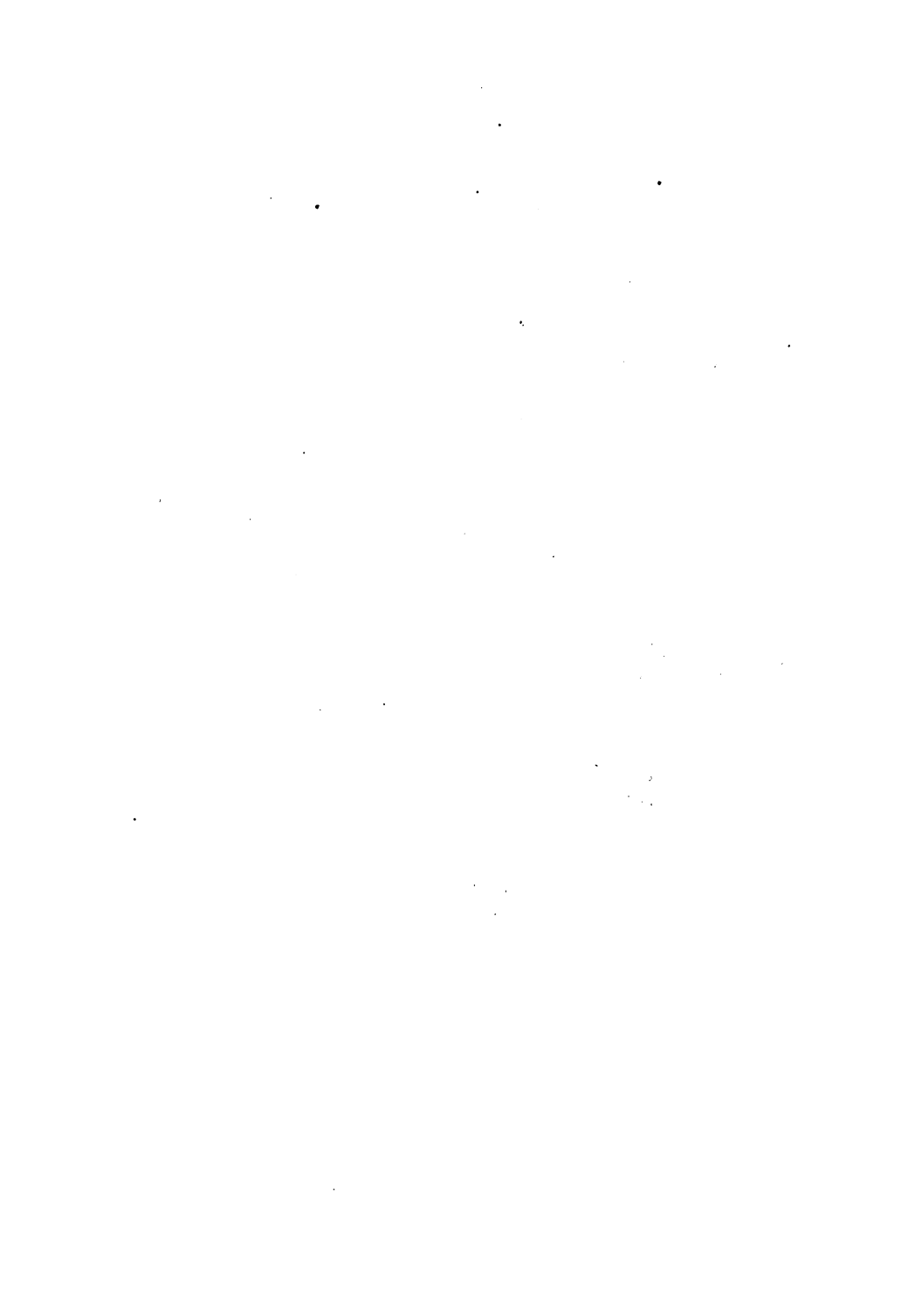
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ELECTRICITY



JOHN WESLEY.



THE
DESIDERATUM:
OR,
ELECTRICITY

Made PLAIN and USEFUL.

By

A LOVER OF MANKIND AND OF COMMON SENSE.



THE REVEREND JOHN WESLEY,
1759.

L O N D O N :
BAILLIÈRE, TINDALL, AND COX,
20 KING WILLIAM STREET, STRAND.

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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

THE great attention which the subject of *Curative Electricity* has lately aroused in the public mind, appears a sufficient warranty for the republication of one of the most remarkable Essays of that great Philanthropist and Divine the Reverend John Wesley.

In these surprising revelations, made when Electricity as a Science was in embryo, it will be perceived, that the Author, with that boldness and acumen which were his distinguishing characteristics, has described many of its marvels with an accuracy bordering upon inspiration. For, although his theories might then have been considered merely as the chimera of a mad-brained enthusiast, yet modern experiments have shown them to be singularly suggestive of those mighty achievements, which make lightning itself our servant and messenger, and the application of its power by ingenious mechanical aids invaluable for the relief of pain, and for many diseases a most complete and sovereign remedy.

The quaint style in which the original text was written has been faithfully adhered to, and the reader is left to draw his own conclusions as to the importance of Electricity in the Healing Art from its marvellous foreshadowing by Wesley at that remote period, to its more defined and certain application at the present time.

May, 1871.



T H E
P R E F A C E .

1. **I**N the following Tract, I have endeavoured to comprize the Sum of what has been hitherto published, on this curious and important Subject, by Mr. *Franklin*, Dr. *Hoadly*, Mr. *Wilson*, *Watson*, *Lovett*, *Freke*, *Martin*, *Watkins*, and in the *Monthly Magazines*. But I am chiefly indebted to Mr. *Franklin* for the speculative Part, and to Mr. *Lovett*, for the practical: Tho' I cannot in every Thing subscribe to the Sentiments either of one or the other.

2. Indeed I am not greatly concerned for the philosophical Part, whether it stand or fall. Of the Facts we are absolutely assured; Altho' they are of so surprising a nature, than a man could not have asserted them a few Years ago, without quite giving up his Reputation. But who can be assured of this or that Hypothesis, by which he endeavours to account for those Facts? Perhaps the utmost we have reason to expect here, is an high Degree of Probability.

3. I am much more concerned for the physical Part, knowing of how great Importance this is: How much Sickness and Pain may be prevented or removed,

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moved, and how many Lives saved by this unparalleled Remedy. And yet with what vehemence has it been opposed? Sometimes by treating it with Contempt, as if it were of little or no Use: Sometimes by Arguments, such as they were; and sometimes by such Cautions against it's ill Effects, as made thousands afraid to meddle with it.

4. But so it has fared with almost all the simple Remedies, which have been offered to the World for many Years. When Sir *John Floyer* published his excellent Book on *Cold bathing*, many for a Time used and profited by it. So did abundance of People by *Cold Water*, when it was publicly recommended by Dr. *Hancock*. The ingenious and benevolent Bishop of *Cloyne*, brought *Tar-Water* likewise into Credit for a Season; and innumerable were the Cures wrought thereby, even in the most desperate and deplorable Cases. Nor was it a little Good which was done by the Use of *Sea-Water*, after Dr. *Ruffel* had published his Tract concerning it. Indeed each of these did Wonders in it's turn. But alas! their Reign was short. The vast Party which were on the other Side, soon raised the Cry, and ran them down. In a few Years they were out of Fashion, out of Use, and almost out of Memory: And the foul, hard-named *Exotics* took place again, to the utter Confusion of Common Sense.

5. Must not *Electricity* then, whatever Wonders it may now perform, expect soon to share the same Fate?

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Fate? And yet it is absolutely certain, that in many, very many Cases, it seldom or never fails. "I can truly say, (says Mr. *Lovett*) I scarce ever knew any who made the Trial and did not succeed. Not that all Disorders will yield thereto. Neither in this any more than the common Way, will the same Treatment of the same Disorder in different Persons have always the same Success." Indeed there cannot be in Nature any such Thing as an absolute *Panacea* : A Medicine that will cure every Disease incident to the human Body. If there could, Electricity would bid fairer for it, than any Thing in the World : As it takes Place in such a vast number of Disorders, some of them so widely different from the others.

6. And yet there is something peculiarly unaccountable, with regard to its Operation. In some Cases, where there was no Hope of Help, it will succeed beyond all expectation. In others, where we had the greatest Hope, it will have no Effect at all. Again, in some Experiments, it helps at the very first, and promises a speedy Cure : But presently the good Effect ceases, and the Patient is as he was before. On the contrary, in others it has no Effect at first : It does no good ; perhaps seems to do hurt. Yet all this Time it is striking at the Root of the Disease, which in a while it totally removes. Frequent Instances of the former we have in *Paralytic*, of the latter, in *Rheumatic* Cases.

7. But

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7. But still one may upon the whole pronounce it the *Desideratum*, the general and rarely failing Remedy, in nervous Cases of every Kind (Palsies excepted); as well as in many others. Perhaps if the Nerves are really perforated (as is now generally supposed) the Electric Ether is the only Fluid in the Universe, which is fine enough to move through them. And what if the *Nervous Juice* itself, be a Fluid of this Kind? If so, it is no Wonder that it has always eluded the Search of the most accurate Naturalists.

8. Be this as it may, Mr. *Lovett* is of Opinion, "the electrical Method of treating Disorders, cannot be expected to arrive at any considerable Degree of Perfection, till administer'd and applied by the Gentlemen of the Faculty." Nay then, *quantà de spe decidi!* All my Hopes are at an End. For when will it be administered and applied by them? Truly, *ad Græcas Calendàs*. Not till the Gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their Neighbours than their own. At least, not till there are no Apothecaries in the Land: Or till Physicians are independent of them.

9. Therefore without waiting for what probably never will be, and what indeed we have no Reason to expect, let Men of Sense do the best they can for themselves, as well as for their poor, sick, helpless Neighbours. How many may they relieve from racking Pain or pining Sickness, by this unexpensive and

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and speedy Remedy? Restoring them to Ease, Health, Strength, generally in a few Minutes, frequently in a Moment. And if a few of these Lovers of Mankind, who have some little knowledge of the Animal Oeconomy, would only be diligent in making Experiments, and setting down the more remarkable of them, in order to communicate them one to another, that each might profit by the other's Labour: I doubt not, but more nervous Disorders would be cured in one Year, by this single Remedy, than the whole *English Materia Medica* will cure, by the End of the Century.

10. It is not impossible, but the *Gentlemen Reviewers* may bestow a Compliment on me as well as on Mr. *Lovett*. If they are so kind, I would only beg them, not to plume themselves upon a Discovery, which I have helped them to myself: Namely, that the following is little more than an Extract from others: I intended it so to be. I designed only to collect together the Substance of the most celebrated Writings on the Subject; and to place them in one connected View, for the Use of those who have little Time or Money to spare. I only wish, some one who has more Leisure and Ability than me, would consider it more deeply, and write a full Practical Treatise on Electricity, which might be a Blessing to Many Generations.

JOHN WESLEY.

Nov. 1, 1759.

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T H E

DESIDERATUM :

OR,

ELECTRICITY ^{made} PLAIN.

I. I. FROM a thousand Experiments it appears, that there is a fluid far more subtle than Air, which is every where diffused thro' all Space, which surrounds the Earth and pervades every Part of it. And such is the extreme Fineness, Velocity, and Expansiveness of this active Principle, that all other Matter seems to be only the Body, and this the Soul of the Universe. This we might term *Elementary Fire*; but that it is hard for us to separate the Ideas of *Fire* and *Burning*: Altho' the latter is in reality but a preternatural and violent Effect of the former.

2. It is highly probable this is the general Instrument of all the Motion in the Universe: From this *pure Fire*, (which is properly so called) the vulgar *Culinary Fire* is kindled. For in Truth there is but one Kind of Fire in Nature, which exists in all Places and in all Bodies. And this is subtle and active enough, not only to be, under the Great Cause, the secondary Cause of Motion, but to produce and sustain Life thro'out all Nature, as well in Animals as in Vegetables.

3 To this effect the learned Bishop of *Cloyne* observes, "The vital Flame is supposed to be the Cause of all the Motions in the Body of Man, whether natural or voluntary. And has not Fire the same Force to animate thro'out, and actuate the whole System of the World? Cherishing, heating, fermenting, dissolving, shining, and operating in various Manners, as various Subjects offer, to employ, or to determine it's Force? It is present in all Parts of the Earth and Firmament, tho' latent and unobserved, till some Accident produces it into Act, and renders it visible in it's effects."

4 This great machine of the World requires some such constant, active, and powerful Principle, constituted by it's Creator, to keep the heavenly Bodies in their several Courses, and at the same Time give Support, Life, and Increase to the various Inhabitants of the Earth. Now as the Heart of every Animal is the Engine which circulates the Blood thro' the whole Body, so the Sun, as the Heart of the World, circulates this Fire thro' the whole Universe. And this element is not capable of any essential Alteration, Increase, or Diminution. It is a Species by itself; and is of a Nature totally distinct from that of all other Bodies.

5. That this is absolutely necessary both to feed common Fire, and to sustain the Life of Animals, it seems may be learn'd from an easy Experiment. Place a Cat, together with a lighted Candle, in a cold Oven: then lute the Door close, having fixt a Glass in the Middle of it: And if you look thro' this, you may observe, at one and the same Instant, the Candle goes out, and the Animal dies. A plain Proof, that the same Fire is needful to sustain both culinary Fire and animal Life: and a large Quantity of it. Some doubtless pervades the Oven Door; but not enough to sustain either Flame or Life. Indeed every Animal is a kind of Fire-Engine. As soon as the Lungs inspire the
Air,

Air, the Fire mingled with it is instantly dispersed thro' the pulmonary Vessels into the Blood: Thence it is diffused thro' every Part of the Body, even the most minute Arteries, Veins, and Nerves. In the mean Time the Lungs inspire more Air and Fire, and so provide a constant Supply.

6. The Air seems to be universally impregnated with this Fire, but so diluted, as not to hurt the Animal in Respiration. So a small Quantity of a Liquor dropt in Water, may be friendly to an human Body, tho' a few Drops of the same Liquor, given by themselves, would have occasioned certain Death. And yet you cannot conceive one Particle of the Water, without a Particle of the Medicine. 'Tis not impossible, this may be one great Use of Air, by adhering so closely to the elementary Fire, to temper and render salutary to the Body, what would otherwise be fatal to it.

7. To put it beyond dispute, that this Fire is largely mixt with the Air, you may make the following Experiment. Take a round Lump of Iron, and heat it to a Degree called a *welding* Heat: Take it out of the Fire, and with a pair of Bellows blow cold Air upon it. The Iron will then as effectually melt, as if it were in the hottest Fire. Now when taken out of the Forge, it had not Fire enough in it to conquer the Cohesion of it's Parts: But when this Fire is join'd with that which was mixt with the Air, it is sufficient to do it. On the same Principle we account for the Increase of a Coal or Wood Fire by blowing it.

8. And let none wonder that Fire should be so connected with Air, as hardly to be separated. As subtle as Fire is, we may even by Art attach it to other Bodies; yea, and keep it Prisoner for many Years: And that either in a solid or a fluid Form. An instance of the first we have in Steel: Which is made such, only by impacting a large Quantity of Fire into Bars of Iron. In like Manner we

impact a great Quantity of Fire into Stone, to make Lime. An Instance of the second Kind we have in Spirits, wherein Fire is imprison'd in a fluid Form. Hence common Spirits will burn all away. And if you throw into the Air Spirits rectified to the highest Degree, not one Drop will come down again, but the universal Fire will take hold of and absorb it all.

9. That this Fire subsists both in Air, Earth, and Water; that it is diffused thro' all and every Part of the Universe, was *suspected* by many of the antient Naturalists, and *believed* by the great Sir *Isaac Newton*. But of late Years it has been fully demonstrated: Particularly, by Mr. *Stephen Gray*, a Pensioner at the *Charterhouse*; who some Years since presented to the Royal Society, an Account of many Experiments he had made, whereby this subtle Fluid became clearly perceptible both to the Sight and Feeling. Because the Glass Tube, by Means of which those Experiments were made, was observed when rubbed to attract Straws and other light Bodies (a known Property of Amber, called in *Latin Electrum*) these Experiments were termed *electrical*: A Word which was soon affixed to that subtle Fluid itself, and every Thing pertaining to do it. But improperly enough: Seeing the attracting (or seeming to attract) Straws and Feathers, is one of the most inconsiderable of all the Effects, wrought by this powerful and universal Cause.

10. It was afterwards found, that a Glass Globe was on some Accounts preferable to a Glass Tube: Particularly, as it was less Labour to turn the one for some Hours together, by means of a small Wheel, in the mean Time rubbing it with a dry Hand, or a little Cushion, than to rub the Tube for so long a Time. It was likewise observed, that a greater Quantity of ethereal Fire might be *collected* by this Means than by the other.

I say *collected* ; for that Fire is no more *created* by rubbing, than Water is by pumping. The grand Reservoir thereof is the Earth, from which it is diffused thro' all the other Parts of common Matter. Accordingly in these Experiments, the Globe rubbing against the Cushion, collects Fire from it. The Cushion receives it from the Frame of the Machine ; the Frame of the Machine from the Floor. But if you cut off the Communication with the Floor, no Fire can be *produced*, because none can be *collected*.

11. In the Year 1746, Mr. de *Muschenbrock*, Professor of natural Philosophy at *Leyden*, was led by a careful Experiment, into many new Discoveries. These were chiefly made by Means of a large but thin Glass Phial. The best way to prepare which is, to coat it with thin Lead ; to line it on the inside with Leaf-Gold, to within two Inches of the Top, and to fasten some Tinsel Fringe to the Bottom (or to the End of the Wire within the Phial) so as to touch the Gold Lining. By this Wire going thro' the Cork, the Phial is hung on any metallic Body, which communicates by a Wire, with the Globe or Tube. This metallic Body has been term'd, *the prime Conductor*, as it conducts or conveys the Fire collected by the Tube or Globe, either into the Phial, or into any other Body communicating therewith.

12. But all Bodies are not capable of receiving it. There is in this Respect an amazing Difference between them. The Excrements of Nature, as Wax, Silk, Hair, will not receive the ethereal Fire, neither convey it to other Bodies: So that whenever in circulating it comes to any of these, it is at a full stop. Air itself is a Body of this Kind ; with great difficulty either receiving or conveying this Fire to other Bodies: So are Pitch and Rosin (Excrements, as it were, of Trees). To these

these we may add Glass, Amber, Brimstone, dry Earth, and a few other Bodies. These have been frequently stiled *Electrics per se* ; as if they alone contain'd the *electric Fire* : An eminently improper Title, founded on a palpable Mistake. From the same Mistake, all other Bodies, which easily receive and readily convey it, were term'd *Non electrics* : on a Supposition, that they contained no *electric Fire* : The contrary of which is now allowed by all.

13. That this Fire is inconceivably subtle, appears from it's permeating even the densest Metals, and that with such Ease, as to receive no perceptible Resistance. If any one doubt, whether it pass thro' the Substance, or only along the Surface of Bodies, a strong Shock taken thro' his own Body, will prevent his doubting any longer. It differs from all other Matter in this, that the Particles of it repel, not attract, each other. And hence is the manifest Divergency in a Stream of electrical Effluvia. But tho' the Particles of it repel each other, yet are they attracted by all other Matter. And from these three, the extreme subtlety of this Fire, the mutual Repulsion of its Parts, and the strong Attraction of them by other Matter, arises this Effect, that if a Quantity of electric Fire be applied to a Mass of common Matter of any Bigness or Length, (which has not already got its Quantity) it is immediately diffused thro' the whole.

14. It seems, this Globe of Earth and Water, with its Plants, Animals, Buildings, have diffused thro' their whole Substance, just as much of this Fire as they will contain. And this we may term their *natural Quantity*. This is not the same in all Kinds of Matter : Neither in the same Kind of Matter in all Circumstances. A solid Foot of one Kind of Matter (as Glass) contains more of it than

a solid Foot of another Kind. And a Pound Weight of the same Kind of Matter, when rarefied, contains more than it did before.

15. We know that this Fire is *in* common Matter, because we can pump it *out*, by the Globe or Tube: We know that common Matter has near as much of it as it can contain, because if we add a little more to any Portion of it, the additional Quantity does not enter, but forms a kind of Atmosphere round it. On the other Hand, we know that common Matter has not more of it than it can contain. Otherwise all loose Portions of it would repel each other; as they constantly do, when they have such Atmospheres. Had the Earth, for Instance, as much electric Fire in Proportion, as we can give to a Globe of Iron or Wood, the Particles of Dust and other light Matter, would not only repel each other, but be continually repelled from the Earth. Hence the Air being constantly loaded therewith, would be unfit for Respiration. Here we see another Occasion to adore that Wisdom, which has made all Things by Weight and Measure.

16. The Form of every electric Atmosphere, is that of the Body which it surrounds: Because it is attracted by every Part of the Surface, tho' it cannot enter the Substance already replete. Without this attraction, it would not remain round the Body, but dissipate into the Air.

17. The Atmosphere of an electrical Sphere, is not more easily drawn off, from any one Part of it than from the other, because it is equally attracted by every Part. But it is not so with Bodies of other Figures. From a Cube it is more easily drawn off at the Corners than at the Sides: And so from the Corners of Bodies of any other Form, and most easily from the sharpest Corners. For the Force with which an electrified Body retains

tains it's Atmosphere, is proportion'd to the Surface on which that Atmosphere rests. So a Surface four Inches square retains it's Atmosphere, with sixteen Times the Force that one of an Inch square does. And as in pulling the Hairs from an Horse's Tail, a Force insufficient to pull off an Handful at once, could easily pull it off Hair by Hair: So tho' a blunt Body can't draw off all the Atmosphere at once, a pointed one can easily draw it off, Particle by Particle.

18. If you would have a sensible Proof, how wonderfully pointed Bodies draw off the electric Fire, place an Iron Shot of four Inches Diameter on the Mouth of a dry Bottle. Suspend over it a small Cork-Ball by a silken Thread, just so as to rest against the Side of the Shot. Electrify the Shot, and the Ball will be repelled four or five Inches from it. Then present to the Shot six or eight Inches off the Point of a sharp Bodkin. The Fire is instantly drawn off; so the Repulsion ceases, and the Ball flies to the Shot. But a blunt Body will not produce this Effect, till it is brought within an Inch of the Shot. If you present the Point of the Bodkin in the Dark, you may see sometimes at a Foot Distance, a Light gather upon it like a Glow-worm, which is manifestly the Fire it extracts from the Shot. The less sharp the Point is, the nearer it must be brought, before you can see the Light. And at whatever Distance you see the Light, you may draw off the electric Fire.

19. To be convinced that pointed Bodies *throw* off, as well as *draw* off the Fire, you may lay a long sharp Needle on the Shot. It cannot then be electrified, so as to repel the Ball, because the Fire thrown upon it, continually runs off at the Point of the Needle: From which in the Dark you may see such a Stream of Light, as in the preceeding Instance.

20. While

20. While the electric Fire, which is in all Bodies, is left to itself, undisturbed by any external Violence, it is more or less dense, according to the Nature of the Body which it is in. In dense Bodies it is more rare : In rare Bodies it is more dense. Accordingly every Body contains such a Quantity of it, rare or dense, as is suitable to it's Nature. And there is some Resistance to every Endeavour of altering it's Density, in the whole of any Body, or in any Part of it. For all Bodies resist either the Increase or Diminution of their natural Quantity. And on the other Hand, when it has been either increased or diminished, there is a Resistance to it's Return to it's natural State.

21. With regard to the different Resistance made by different Bodies, in either of these Cases, it is an invariable Rule, that Glass, Wax, Rosin, Brimstone, Silk, Hair, and such like Bodies, resist the most : And next to these, the Air, provided it be dry, and in a sufficient Quantity. That this Resistance is least in Metals, Minerals, Water, Quicksilver, Animals, and Vegetables : Which we may rank together, because the Difference in their Resistance is very inconsiderable : And that in these Bodies the Resistance is greater, when their Surfaces are polish'd, and extended in length, than when their Surfaces are rough and short, or end in sharp Points.

22. When a Body has more electric Fire forced into it, than it has naturally, it is said to be electrified *positively*. When Part of the natural Quantity is taken away, it is said to be electrified *negatively*. Now when an Iron Bar is *negatively* electrified, the Fire drawn out, does not go in again as soon as the Experiment is over, but forms an Atmosphere round it, because of the Resistance it finds in it's Endeavour to dilate itself, either into the Air or into the Bar. And when it is electrified *positively*,
the

the same kind of Atmosphere is form'd, by the Fire accumulated upon it. Whether therefore Bodies are electrified negatively or positively, and remain so when the Experiment is over, there are similar Atmospheres surrounding them, which will produce similar Effects.

23. But we can electrify no Body beyond a certain Degree: Because when any is electrified to that Point, it has an Atmosphere round it sufficiently strong to ballance any Power that endeavours to electrify it farther. Nor is the electric Fire either from the Tube or the Globe, able to force its Way thro' this.

24. And in the ordinary Course of Nature, this subtle, active Fluid, which not only surrounds every gross Body, but every component Particle of each, where it is not in absolute Contact with it's neighbouring Particle, can never be idle, but is ever in Action, tho' that Action be imperceptible to our Senses. It is ever varying it's Condition, tho' imperceptibly, in all Parts of all Bodies whatever; and electrifying them more or less, tho' not so forcibly as to give sensible Signs of it. All Bodies then, and all their component Particles, when in their natural Situation, have round their Surfaces, where they are not in absolute Contact with other Surfaces, an imperceptible Atmosphere sufficient to ballance the smaller Force with which they are attack'd: Every Way similar to the perceptible Atmosphere of Bodies forcibly electrified. In these imperceptible Atmospheres is placed the Power which resists their being electrified to an higher Degree than they are naturally. And this Power lies in the Elasticity of the subtle Fluid, every where dispersed both round all Bodies and in them.

25. Glass is with very great difficulty electrified, which seems to prove it has a very dense electric Atmosphere.
Metals

Metals are easily electrified. Consequently they have rare and therefore weakly-resisting Atmospheres. But as Heat rarefies all Bodies, so if Glass be heated to a certain Degree, even below melting, it will give as free a Passage to the electric Fire, as Brass or Iron does: The Atmosphere round it being then rendered as rare as that of Metals. Nay, when melted, it makes no more Resistance than Water. But it's Resistance increases, as it cools. And when it is quite cold, it resists as forcibly as ever. Smoothly-polished Wax resists as much as Glass. But even the small Heat raised by rubbing, will render it's Atmosphere as rare as that of Metals, and so entirely destroy it's Resistance. The same is true of Rosin and Brimstone. Even the Heat arising from Friction, destroys the Resistance which they naturally make to being electrified: A strong Proof, that the Resistance of all Bodies thereto is exerted at their Surfaces, and caused by an electric Atmosphere of different Densities, according to different Circumstances.

26. Most Experiments will succeed as well with a Globe of Brimstone, as with one of Glass. Yet there is a considerable Difference in their Nature. What Glass repels, Brimstone (as also Rosin) attracts. Rubbed Glass emits the electric Fire: Rubbed Brimstone, Rosin and Wax receive it. Hence if a Glass Globe be turned at one end of a prime Conductor, and a Brimstone one at the other, not a Spark of Fire can be obtain'd; one receiving it in, as fast as it is given out by the other. Hence also if a Phial be suspended on the prime Conductor, with a Chain from it's Coating to the Table, and only one Globe turned, it will be electrified (or *charged*, as they term it) by twenty turns of the Wheel: After which it may be *discharged*, that is, unelectrified, by twenty Turns of the other Wheel.

27. The

27. The Difference between *Non Electrics* (vulgarly speaking) and *Electrics per se*, is chiefly this.

1. A *Non Electric* easily suffers a Change, in the Quantity of Fire it contains. It's whole Quantity may be lessen'd by drawing out a Part, which it will afterwards resume. But you can only lessen the Quantity contain'd in one of the Surfaces of an *Electric*: And not that, but by adding at the same Time an equal Quantity to the other Surface. So that the whole Glass will always have the same Quantity in it's two Surfaces. And even this can only be done in Glass that is thin: Beyond a certain Thickness we know no Power that can make this Change.

2. The ethereal Fire freely moves from Place to Place, in and thro' the Substance of a *Non Electric*. But thro' the Substance of an *Electric* it will by no Means pass. It freely enters an Iron Rod, and moves from one End to another, where the Overplus is discharged. But it will not enter, or move thro' a Glass Rod. Neither will the thinnest Glass which can be made, suffer any Particle of it entering one of it's Surfaces, to pass thro' to the other.

28. Indeed it is only Metals and Liquids, that perfectly *conduct* (or transmit) this Fire. Other Bodies seem to conduct it, only so far as they contain a Mixture of these: accordingly, moist Air will conduct it, in Proportion to it's Moistness. But dry Air will not conduct it at all: On the contrary, it is the main Instrument, in confining any electric Atmosphere, to the Body which it surrounds. Dry Air prevents it's dissipating (which it does presently when *in vacuo*) or passing from Body to Body. A clear Bottle full of Air, instead of Water, cannot be electrified. But exhausted of Air, it is electrified as effectually as if it was full of Water. Yet an electrical Atmosphere and Air, do not exclude one another. For we breath in it freely,
and

and dry Air will blow thro' it, without altering it at all.

29. When a Glass Phial is electrified, whatever Quantity of Fire is accumulated on the inner Surface, an equal Quantity is taken from the outer. Suppose, before the Operation begins, the Quantity of Fire contain'd in each Surface, is equal to twenty grains: Suppose at every Turn of the Globe, one Grain is thrown in: Then after the first Stroke there are twenty one within, nineteen only without: After the Second, the inner Surface will have twenty two, the outer but eighteen: And so on, till after twenty Strokes, the inner will have forty, the outer none. And the Operation ends: For no Power or Art of Man can throw any more on the inner Surface, when no more can be taken from the outer. If you attempt to throw more in, it is thrown back thro' the Wire, or flies out in Cracks thro' the Sides of the Phial. The Equilibrium cannot be restored in this Phial, but by a Communication form'd between the inner and outer Surface, by something external, touching both the outer, and the Wire which communicates with the inner Surface. If you touch these by Turns, it is restored by Degrees: If both at once, it is restored instantly. But then there is a Shock occasioned by the sudden passing of the Fire thro' the Body, in it's Way from the inner to the outer Surface. For it moves from the Wire to the Finger, (not from the Finger to the Wire, as is commonly supposed). Thence it passes thro' the Body to the other Hand, and so to the outer Surface.

30. The Force with which this Shock may be given, is far greater than one would conceive. It will kill Rats, Hens, or even Turkeys in a Moment: Others that are not quite killed, it strikes blind. It will give Polarity to a fine Needle, making
it

it point North and South, as if touched by a Loadstone. It will invert the Polarity of a Compass, and make the North Point turn to the South. At the same Time the Ends of the Needles are finely blued like the Spring of a Watch. It will melt off the Heads and Points of Pins and Needles: And sometimes the whole Surface of the Needle is run and appears as it were blistered, when examined by a magnifying Glass. It will melt thin Gold or Silver, when held tight between two Panes of Glass, together with the Surface of the Glass itself, and incorporate them in a fine Enamel. Yea a strong Spark from an electrified Phial, makes a fair Hole thro' a Quire of Paper doubled: Which is thought good Armour against the Push of a Sword, or even a Pistol Bullet. And 'tis amazing to observe in how small a Portion of Glass, a great electrical Force may be. A thin Glass Bubble, about an Inch Diameter, being half filled with Water, partly gilt on the outside, when electrified gives as strong a Shock as a Man can well bear: Allowing then that it contains no more Fire after charging than before, how much Fire must there be in this small Glass! It seems to be a Part of it's very Substance, Perhaps if that Fire could be separated from it, it would be no longer Glass. It might in losing this lose its most essential Properties, it's Transparency, Brittleness, and Elasticity.

31. Some have not improbably supposed, that all *Electric* Bodies, so called, are by their original Constitution, thro'ly saturated with Electric Fire: That it remains fixt in them, (unless while the Texture of those Bodies is quite alter'd by Liquefaction) that Fire fixt in a Body constitutes an *Electric*, and all Bodies where it is not fixt are *Non Electrics*. Agreeably to which they suppose, that in all *Non Electrics*, the Original Fire, loosely inhering, is easily driven on by the new collected Fire, which
then

then possesses its Place: But that in *Electrics* the Original Fire being impacted into their Substance, and therefore more firmly inhering, will not give Way to, or be driven on by, the new collected Fire. Such is Air in particular; with the Particles of which the original Fire is closely incorporated. Dry Air seems to be, so fully saturated with it, that it is scarce capable of receiving any more: Whereas all new-collected Fire is continually endeavouring to return into the Earth. Let Wires be electrified ever so strongly, yet the Moment any Part of them is touch'd by a Person standing on the Floor, they are electrified no longer: all the Fire escaping thro' him into the Earth.

32. Upon the Principles of Electricity, we may give a more rational Account, of many Appearances in Nature, than has yet been done: Of Thunder and Lightning in particular. In order to which we may observe, all electrified Bodies retain the Fire thrown into them, till some Non-electric approaches: To which it is then communicated with a Snap, and becomes equally divided. Electric Fire is strongly attracted by Water, and readily mixes with it. And Water being electrified, the Vapours arising from it, are equally electrified. As these float in the Air, they retain the additional Fire, till they meet with Clouds not so much electrified. They then communicate it with a Shock.

33. The Ocean is compounded of Water, and Salt; one an Electric, the other not. When there is a Friction among the Parts near its Surface, the Fire is collected from the Parts below. It is then plainly visible in the Night, at the Stern of every sailing Vessel. It appears from every dash of an Oar: In Storms the whole Sea seems on Fire. The Particles of Water then repell'd from the electrified Surface, continually carry off the Fire as it is collected. They rise and form Clouds which are highly electrified,

electrified, and retain the Fire till they have an Opportunity of discharging it.

34. Particles of Water rising in Vapours, attach themselves to Particles of Air. One Particle of Air may be surrounded by twelve Particles of Water as large as itself, all touching it, and by more added to them. Particles of Air thus loaded would be drawn nearer together by the mutual Attraction of the Particles of Water, did not the Fire, Common or Electric, included therein, assist their mutual Repulsion. Hence they continue suspended. But if Air thus loaded, be compress'd by adverse Winds, or by being driven against Mountains, or if it be condensed by the Loss of it's Fire, it will continue suspended no longer, but will descend in Dew. And if the Water surrounding one Particle of Air comes into contact with that surrounding another, they naturally coalesce into a Drop, and so descend in Rain.

35. The Sun supplies common Fire to all Vapours, rising either from Sea or Land. Vapours having both this and Electric Fire, are better supported than those which have this only. For when Vapours rise into the coldest Region, the common Fire may fail. But the Cold will not diminish the Electric: This is always the same. Hence Clouds raised from fresh Waters, from moist Earth, or growing Vegetables, more easily descend, and deposite their Waters, as having but little Electric Fire, to keep the Particles separate from each other. So that the greatest part of the Water raised from the Land, falls on the Land again. But Clouds raised from the Sea, having both Fires, and much of the Electric, support their water far more strongly, and being assisted by Winds, may bring it from the Middle of the widest Ocean to the Middle of the broadest Continent. And yet a Way is provided whereby these also are readily brought to deposite

posite their Water. For whenever they are driven against Mountains by the Winds, those Mountains take away their Electric Fire : And being cold, the common also : Hence the Particles immediately close. If the Air was not much loaded, the Water falls in Dew on the Top and the Sides of the Mountain. If it was, the Electric Fire being taken at once from the whole Cloud, it flashes brightly, and cracks loudly. And the Particles instantly coalescing for want of that Fire, fall in an heavy Shower.

36. When a Ridge of Mountains stops the Clouds, and draws the Electric Fire from the Cloud first approaching it, the next when it comes near the first, now deprived of it's Fire, flashes into it, and deposits it's own Water. The third Cloud approaching, and all that succeed, act in the same Manner ; as far back as they extend, which may be for several hundred Miles. Hence the continual Storms of Thunder, Lightning and Rain, on the East Side of those vast Mountains, the *Andes*, which running North and South, intercept all the Clouds brought against them from the *Atlantick* Ocean. In a plain Country, there are other Means to make them drop their Water. For if an electrified Cloud coming from the Sea, meets in the Air a Cloud coming from the Land, and therefore not electrified, the first will give it's Flash into the latter, and thereby both will be made to deposit their Water. The Concussion of the Air contributes also to shake down the Water, not only from those two Clouds, but from others near them. When the Sea and Land Clouds would pass at too great a Distance from each other, they are mutually attracted till within the Distance. For the Sphere of Electrical Attraction is far beyond the flashing Distance. And yet where a Cloud contains much Fire, it may strike at a considerable Distance. When a Con-

ductor has but little Fire in it, you must approach very near before you can draw a Spark. Throw into it a greater Quantity of Fire, and it will give a Spark at a greater Distance. But if a Gun Barrel, when electrified, will strike and make a Noise, at the Distance of an Inch, at what a Distance, and with how great a Noise, may ten thousand Acres of electrified Cloud strike? No wonder that this should melt Metals (which our artificial Flash does in some Degree) tho' perhaps not so properly by it's Heat, as by insinuating into the Pores, and creating a violent Repulsion between the Particles of the Metal it passes thro'. This overcomes the Attraction whereby they cohere, and so melts the metallic Body. And this accounts for its melting a Sword in the Scabbard, or Gold in the Pocket, without burning either.

37. But Thunder-Clouds do not always contain more than their natural Quantity of Electric Fire. Very frequently they contain less. And when this is the Case, when they are negatively electrified, altho' the Effects and Appearances are nearly the same, yet the Manner of Operation is different. For in this Case, it is really the Fire from the Mountains, or other Part of the Earth which strikes into the Cloud; and not, as we imagine, Fire from the Cloud which strikes into the Earth. And we may easily conceive, how a Cloud may be negatively electrified. When a Portion of Water is rarefied into a thin Vapour, the Fire it contains is rarefied too. Consequently it has then less than it's natural Quantity of Fire. Such a Cloud therefore coming within a due Distance of the Earth, will receive from it a Flash of Electric Fire; which Flash, to supply a great Extent of Cloud, must often contain a great Quantity of Fire. Such a Cloud also passing over Woods of Tall Trees, may silently receive some Supply, either from the Points of the Boughs,

Boughs, or from the sharp Ends and Edges of the Leaves. The Cloud thus supplied, flashes into other Clouds that have not been so supplied ; and those into others, till an Equilibrium is produced, among all that are within a striking Distance of each other. And hence are repeated Strokes and Flashes, till they descend in Showers to the Earth, their Original. Rain, especially when in large Drops, generally brings down the Electric Fire : Falling Snow often : Summer Hail, always, tho' silently. Consequently, any of these may prevent Thunder and Lightning ; or at least, abate it's Violence. Rain is helpful in another Respect likewise. By wetting Men or Beasts, it saves many Lives. For if your Cloathes are thro'ly wet, and a Flash of Lightning strikes the Top of your Head, it will run in the Water over the Surface of your Body into the Ground : Whereas if your Cloathes were not wet, it would go thro' your Body. Hence a wet Chicken cannot be killed by a Stroke from the Phial : whereas a dry one is kill'd in an Instant. See here also the Wisdom and Goodness of Him, *who sendeth forth Lightning with the Rain !* It should likewise be observed, that wherever electrified Clouds pass, Spires, Towers, Chimneys, and high Trees, as so many Points, draw the Electric Fire, and the whole Cloud frequently discharges there. Therefore it is highly dangerous in such a Storm, to take Shelter under a Tree.

38. Common Fire (if it be any thing more, than a different Modification of the same Element) is more or less in all Bodies, as well as Electrical. If there be a sufficient Quantity of either in any Body, it is inflamed. But when the Quantity of common Fire therein is small, there needs more Electric Fire to inflame it. Where the Quantity of common Fire is greater, less of the Electric will suffice. So if Spirits are heated, a small Spark inflames them. If

they are not, the Spark must be greater. Sulphureous Vapours, whether rising from the Earth, or from Stacks of Moist Hay or Corn, or any other heated and reeking Vegetable, contain abundance of common Fire. A small Addition of Electric then will inflame them. Therefore they are easily kindled by Lightning.

39. Any who would be clearly convinced of the Nature of Lightning, may make the following Experiment. Make a small Cross of two thin Strips of Wood, the Arms being just so long, as to reach the four Corners of a large, thin Silk Handkerchief when extended. Tie the Corners of this to the Extremities of the Cross; and so you have the Body of a Kite: Add to this a proper Tail, Loop and String, and it will rise in the Air like one made with Paper: But this is fitter to bear the Wind and Wet in a Storm without tearing. To the Top of the Cross fix a sharp pointed Wire, rising a Foot above it. Tie a Silk Ribbon to the End of the Twine next the Hand; and where the Silk and Twine join, fasten a Key. Raise this Kite when a Thunder-Storm is coming on: But he that holds the String, must stand in a Porch, or under some other Covering, that the Ribbon may not be wet. He must likewise take particular Care, that the Twine do not touch the Top or Side of the Porch. As soon as the Thunder-Cloud comes over the Kite, the pointed Wire draws the Electric Fire from it. The Kite and all the Twine are then electrified, as plainly appears by this, that the loose Filaments of the Twine stand out every way, and are attracted by an approaching Finger. And when the Kite and Twine being wet, conduct the Fire freely, it will stream from the Key, on the Approach of the Knuckle. By this Key the Phial may be charged, and all other Experiments made, as by the Globe. And this is a Demonstration,
that

that the Electric Fire thereby obtain'd, is the very same with that of Lightning.

40. May not the Knowledge of this Power in pointed Bodies, of drawing off the Fire contain'd in these Clouds, suggest to us a very probable Method, of preserving Houses, Churches, Ships from the Stroke of Lightning? Might we not fix on the highest Part of them, upright Rods of Iron made sharp as Needles, and gilt, to prevent rusting, which otherwise would hinder their free Conveyance of the Electric Fire? From the Foot of those Rods (which need not be above half an Inch diameter) a Wire may pass down the Outside of the Building into the Ground; or down round one of the Shrouds of a Ship, and down her Side, till it reaches the Water. Would not these Rods silently draw off the Electric Fire, before the Cloud was nigh enough to strike? And thereby in a good Measure secure us from that most sudden and terrible Mischief! Let it not be objected, that the using this probable Means of preventing a threatening Danger, would imply any Denial of, or Distrust in, Divine Providence. Not at all: We know the Creator of the Universe, is likewise the Governor of all Things therein. But we know likewise, that he governs by second Causes; and that accordingly it is his Will, we should use all the probable Means he has given us, to attain every lawful End. It is therefore no more an Impeachment of his Providence, when we foresee a Storm of Lightning and Rain, to shelter our House (as far as we are able) from the one, than to shelter ourselves in that House from the other. Is it not just as innocent (if it be possible) to keep our Rooms tight from Lightning, as from Wind and Water?

41. It may not be improper to add one or two Observations, before we proceed to what is of more Importance. Scarce any Phenomenon in Nature

has been esteem'd more difficult to be accounted for than those luminous Appearances in the Sky, term'd *Aurora Borealis*, or *Northern Lights*. But these also may be rationally explain'd, upon the Principles of Electricity. We often see Clouds at different Heights, passing different Ways, North and South at the same Time. This manifestly proves different Currents of Air, one of them under the other. Now as the Air between the Tropics is rarified by the Sun, it rises; the denser Air pressing into it's Place. The Air so raised, moves North and South, and if it has no Opportunity before, must descend in the Polar Regions. When this Air with it's Vapours descends into contact with the Vapours arising there, the Electric Fire which it brought begins to be communicated, and is seen in clear Nights; being first visible where it is first in Motion, namely in the most Northern Parts. But from thence the Streams of Light seem to shoot Southerly, even to the Zenith of Northern Countries.

42. Another Phenomenon of a totally different Kind, may be accounted for on the same Principles, altho' Mr. *Prior* supposes *Solomon* himself to ask, as a Question which he could not answer,

“ Whence does it happen, that the Plant which
well

We name the *Sensitive*, should move and feel ?

Whence know her Leaves to answer her Command,
And with quick Horror fly the neighbouring
Hand ? ”

Allowing for Poetical Amplification the plain Fact is this. The Sensitive Plant, as it were, shrinks away, as soon as your Hand approaches it. And from a turgid and vivid appearance, instantly droops and hangs it's Leaves. Now suppose this Plant to contain more Electric Fire than any other Plant or
Animal,

Animal, it must of Course communicate that Fire, to any other that touches it. And if so, its Leaves and Branches must be in a languid State, till they have recover'd their natural Quantity. To illustrate this, set any small Tree in a Pot on a Cake of Brimstone. Electrify it and it grows extremely turgid, so as to erect it's Leaves. But the Moment you touch one of them, the whole Tree droops, and hangs all it's Leaves and Branches.

To throw all the Light I can on the Subject, I subjoin a few Extracts from several other Writers.

An Extract from Mr. Watson's Experiments and Observations.

1. When two Plates, the one electrified, the other not, were brought near to each other, the Flashes of *bright Flame* were so large, that in a dark Room, I could distinctly see the faces of 13 Persons. P. 6.

2. A Piece of large blunt Wire was hung to the Conductor. To the End of this when electrified a black Surface not electrified being brought near, (tho' not near enough to cause a Snap) a Brush of *Blue Flame*, quite different from the former, issued of more than an Inch long, and an Inch thick. P. 7.

3. If a Person strongly electrified lays his Hand on the Cloaths of one that is not, especially if they are thin Woollen or Silk, they both feel as it were *many Pins pricking* them, as long as the Globe is in Motion.

4. If Oil of Turpentine be set on Fire in a Vessel held by one electrified, the *Smoke* arising therefrom, received against a Plate held at a Foot Distance from the Flame, by one standing on Rosin, will enable him to Fire warm Spirits of Wine. The Electric Strokes have been likewise felt, upon touching the second Man, when the Plate he held
in

in the Smoke has been between seven and eight Feet above the Flame. P. 8.

5. Take burning Spirits of Wine instead of Oil of Turpentine: And if the second Man hold the End of an Iron Rod at the Top of the *Flame*, he may kindle other warm Spirits held near his Finger. Hence we find that either Smoke or Flame conducts the Electric Fire, and does not perceptibly diminish it's Force. P. 9.

6. If the Wire of the Phial be not touched, the electrified Water or Steel Dust will retain it's Force many Hours, may be convey'd several Miles, and will afterward exert it's Force upon touching the Wire. P. 16.

7. If an Egg is hung on the Conductor, and a Person grasping the electrified Phial with one Hand, brings the Palm of his other near the Bottom of the Egg, he receives a smart Stroke on the Hand, as with a Ferula, and his Hand seems full of a more red Fire than is usually observed. P. 24.

8. Any Number of Persons communicating with each other, the first of whom grasps the Phial, and the last touches the Conductor, receive the same Shock as if it was one only. P. 25.

9. The Electric Force always describes a Circuit, and moves in the straitest Line it can, between the Conductor and Phial. P. 26.

10. To prove this, while the Machine stood on Wax, I stood upon the Floor; and putting one Hand on the Machine, touch'd the Gun Barrel with the other. Upon this Fire issued, and the snapping continued as long as I held my hand on the Machine, but no longer. This shew'd at once, that the Electric Fire past from the Floor thro' my Body to the Machine. P. 36.

11. If the Electric Fire is not stopt, no Sign of it's Presence is observable, in the Bodies suspended to the Globe. Tho' it throws ever so much of this
Fire

Fire upon them, it passes from them to the Floor whence it came. But if it is stopt, it is then accumulated in or upon these Bodies: Altho' this can be done only to a certain Degree, after which it continually disperses. If when it is accumulated, a Man standing on the Floor touches those Bodies, the Snap is felt, and the Fire is seen. But this snapping is not, when the Fire passes off continually, as from a Piece of blunt Wire hung to the Barrel, and a Hand brought near it. Then it appears like a blue Cone of Flame, with it's Point towards the Wire. When the Hand is held at a proper Distance, there is a Blast therefrom, as of cold Air. If you do not determine the Electric Fire to a Point, it is dispersed from all Parts of the electrified Body: But if you do, by thus holding your Hand near the Fire, you see how it passes to the Floor, and so into the Earth. The Globe therefore only circulates this Fire, which is collected by it's Friction against the Hand or Cushion, and which is constantly supplied to these from the Earth. And accordingly the Ingress of it, as well as the Egress, is visible. For, if while any unelectrified Body touches the Barrel, you bring your Finger near the Wood-Work of the Machine, you will see the Brush of Blue Flame set in from it to the Wood-Work. And this flame passes diverging into the Machine, and continues as long as the Barrel is touched. P. 44.

12. That the Electric Atmosphere which surrounds all electrified Bodies, extends to a considerable Distance, appears from their attracting a fine Thread, at the distance of some Feet. If no unelectrified Body is near, this Atmosphere seems to be equally spread over that which is electrified. But if one unelectrified is brought near, the greatest Part of it is determined that Way; whence the Attraction of the other Parts of the electrified Body is

is considerably diminished. This is the Cause of Electric Repulsion, which does not operate, till the Electric Ether is sufficiently accumulated. This Repulsion is strongest in those Parts of the electrified Body, where unelectrified Bodies are brought near it. For by these the Electric Blast, which otherwise is general, is particularly determined. P. 46.

13. When the Machine is placed upon Rosin, if a Man standing likewise on Rosin, touches the Barrel while the Globe is turning, he will receive a Snap or two, and no more. But if he touch the Wood-Work of the Machine with one Hand, and the Barrel with the other, he receives Snaps again, which continue as long as he touches the Machine, and no longer. Here the Man by touching the Machine with one Hand, becomes a Part thereof; and by turning the Globe, Part of the Electric Fire inherent in his Body, is transmitted to the Barrel; but it is restored to him, on his touching the Barrel with his other Hand. If instead of touching the Machine or Barrel, he holds his Finger near either, or both, you see the Fire go out and return. P. 64.

14. May we not gather from the preceeding Experiments, 1. That the Attraction and Repulsion of electrified Bodies, is owing to the Flux of Electric Ether? 2. That this Ether is no other than pure Fire? 3. That this Fire appears in different Forms, according to it's different Modifications? When brought towards a Point is it not a lambent Flame? When nearer still, may we not both hear and feel it? And does not it's lighting up Spirits demonstrate, that it is real Fire? 4. That this Fire is intimately connected with all Bodies, tho' least of all with pure, dry Air? We have extracted it from Water, Flame, Smoke, red hot Iron; and from a Mixture 30 Degrees colder than the

the freezing Point. 5. That it is extremely subtle and highly Elastic? 6. That the Electric Machine may as properly be term'd a *Fire-Pump*, as Mr. Boyle's Machine, an *Air Pump*? And lastly, that Fire is not Mechanically producible from other Bodies, but is an original, distinct Principle?

An Extract from Mr. Wilson's Dissertation on Electricity.

Prop. 1. When two Bodies equally replete with Electric Matter approach each other, no Flame or Snap will ensue. P. 5.

Prop. 2. Two Bodies equally electrified repel each other. P. 6.

Prop. 3. An Electric Body interposed between a Person and the Earth, prevents his exciting Electricity in another Body by Friction. P. 11.

Prop. 4. If there is originally a certain Quantity of Electric Matter in a Body of a given Magnitude and Density; and that Matter be equally distributed therein, by it's Elastic Force, according to the Density of the Parts: Upon increasing the Quantity of Matter by adding other Bodies of the same Kind, the Quantity of Electric Matter will be increased in the same Proportion. P. 14.

Prop. 5. As Electric Bodies act on light Bodies that are not electrified, so unelectrified Bodies act on the Electric Matter contain'd in electrified Bodies. P. 16.

Let a Wire be electrified in the Dark, and if you hold any unelectrified Body 7 or 8 Inches from the End of it, a Stream of Fire will issue from it, which will diverge to that Body. But the Divergency will lessen as it approaches it, till the Rays become parallel. If the Body be held not directly before the End of the Wire, but wide of it at about two Inches Distance, the Fire will describe curvilinear Rays towards that Body. P. 17.

Hence

Hence it appears, that unelectrified Bodies act in like Manner with electrified : Only the acting Force of the one, being increased by Friction, is greater than that of the other.

Prop. 6. When two equally Electric Atmospheres are brought so near as to touch, they repel each other with a Force equal to their Densities. P. 19.

Prop. 7. If while a Fluid surrounds a Globe which is electrified and turn'd round an Axis passing through its Center, an unelectrified Body be held near the Equator of it, the Fluid will rise successively towards that Body, as it turns round, in like Manner as the Sea is affected by the Moon. P. 23.

The Shock given by the Phial is in Proportion to the Size of it, the thinness of the Glass, and the Number of Points in contact with it's Surface. P. 25.

An Extract from Mr. Martin's Essay on Electricity.

1. The *Electric Matter* is emitted from some sort of Bodies when rubb'd, which are call'd *Electric*. P. 9.

2. By other Sorts of Bodies, therefore term'd *Non-Electrics*, it is not emitted.

3. It will run off to all *Non-Electrics*, but is restrained by all *Electrics*.

4. It shines like a *Flame*, and is emitted with a *Snap* : If towards a *Non-Electric*, the Fire is condensed, less or more, and so appears of a bluish, Purple, Yellow, or White Colour.

When the Electric Fire is not so much condensed as to explode, as in Thunder and Lightning it goes off in a dilated Stream of purple Flame, greatly resembling that Part of the *Aurora Borealis*, which appears in Streams of Light.

When

When it is little condensed, it appears *bluish*, as all other faint Lights do : When a little denser, it appears *Purple* ; When denser still, it looks *Yellow*, like Candle Light : When highly condensed, it is clear and *white*, like the Light of the Sun. So the White Lightning is of all others most fierce. So Phosphorus rubb'd a little, spends itself in an harmless Blue Flame : But upon a greater Attrition, kindles into a White Flame, and burns with an outrageous and unquenchable Fire. p. 17.

And as Lightning pervades soft Substances unhurt, but dissolves hard and compact Bodies, so Electric Fire pervades the soft, muscular Parts of the Body, but violently strikes the Bones and Tendons. Again, as those denser Parts of Lightning which we call Thunder-Bolts, striking against hard Bodies, glance by Reflection to different Parts, so this Fire, striking against the Elbow, is reflected from thence across the Breast, to the other Elbow. p. 18.

Indeed different Persons are affected thereby in a very different Manner. Some are extremely capable of it, some not : And some are not susceptible of it at all : A Person, for Instance, who has the Small-Pox, cannot be electrified by any Means whatever. p. 20.

Experiment 1. On the Axis, in the Center of my Globe, is fixt a circular String of Threads. When the Globe is at rest, they all hang down : When it is in Motion, they all extend themselves from the Center, strait toward the inner Surface of the Globe (like the Spokes of a Coach Wheel) which they nearly touch. Thus they continue till the Electric Virtue ceases, and then gradually fall down, as at first. p. 22.

Exp. 2. While they are extended, if you move your Hand toward the Surface of the Globe, they move every Way toward the Hand. Hence we see the

the amazing Subtlety of this Fire, which pervades Glass as readily as if nothing were in the Way.

Exp. 3. Place a Hoop of Fine Threads round the Globe in Motion, and all of them will stand perpendicular to the Surface. Hence we learn that the Electric Power acts equally, both within and without the Globe, and in Directions perpendicular to it's Surface.

Exp. 4. If the Room be then darken'd, the Ends of the Threads on the Outside, will be all tipt with Fire. But those within are not, which shews that this Power acts only *ab intra* outwardly. p. 23.

Exp. 5. An Iron Rod being hung on Silken Strings, with one End about $\frac{1}{2}$ of an Inch from the Globe, will at the other End (which terminates in a conical Point) emit a Purple Flame diverging every Way. Hold your Finger within $\frac{1}{4}$ of an Inch, and the Fire will issue more largely. p. 24.

Exp. 6. Hold your Finger still nearer, and the Rays will be so condensed as to run to it in a Stream of Yellow Flame; which is also sensible to the Feeling, as a gentle Wind, and smells like the Fire of Phosphorus.

Exp. 7. If you put your Finger on the Rod, the Flame instantly disappears, the Fire all running off upon the Finger. But take it off, and the Flame appears again.

Exp. 8. Apply your Finger near a Tin Tube so suspended, and you may see the Fire, and both hear and feel the Snap. p. 25.

Exp. 14. Under an electrified Plate, put some Leaf-Gold or other light Substances on another Plate unelectrified: And it will be attracted and repell'd alternately, between the two Plates. For, each Time it touches the lower Plate, it discharges the Electric Fire, and so becomes again attractive. p. 28.

Exp.

Exp. 18. If to a Gun Barrel you adapt a small Tin Cup, and pour in Water ; a Person holding his Finger perpendicular over the Water, within $\frac{1}{4}$ of an Inch of it's Surface, will find the Water rise in Form of a Cone to meet his Finger, and from the Top of it, a Stream of Fire will issue to the Finger and snap as usual. p. 30.

Exp. 19. A dry Sponge is an *Electric*. But if it be dipt in Water, and then hung on the Barrel, put your Finger near it, and the Fire issues out, and the Drops which before fell very slowly, will now fall very fast. If the Room be darkened, they will appear as Drops of Fire. p. 31.

Exp. 20. A Syphon hung on the Cup, drops very gently till it is electrified ; but then the Water runs in a Stream, which in the Dark is like a Stream of Fire.

Exp. 21. Open a Vein in a Person standing on the Rosin, and the Blood will fly out to a certain Distance. But let him be electrified, and it will spin out with a much greater Force, and to a far greater Distance.

Exp. 24. If Mercury be put for Water, the Electric Force is something greater, but in no Proportion to it's Density.

Exp. 25. When the Mercury is saturated, the Electric Streams will issue thro' the Wire more copiously than from the Phial of Water, and will snap of themselves, which the Streams issuing from the Water never do.

Exp. 27. The electrified Phial will not retain the Fire very long : But if you hold it up in a dark Room, it will be seen to go off from the Point of the Wire, in a small white Flame. p. 34.

Exp. 30. A Cup of Water held by an electrified Person will emit Fire more forcibly than his Body. p. 35.

Exp.

Exp. 32. A Person standing on the Ground, cannot easily kiss an electrified Person standing on the Rosin. p. 36.

Exp. 38. If a square Piece of Leaf Gold be placed between two Plates, about two Inches asunder, one of them electrified, the other not, at first it will be attracted, and repell'd alternately, till in a while it will lose its Motion, and remain suspended between them. p. 39.

Exp. 42. If the Globe be exhausted of Air, and then turn'd, the Electric Fire will act wholly within the Globe, where it will appear (in a dark Room) as a Reddish or Purple Flame, filling the whole Globe. But this, as the Air is re-admitted into it, will gradually disappear. In this Case, the Electric Fire is confined within, by the elastic Air on the Outside. p. 40.

An Extract from Mr. Watkins's Account of electrical Experiments.

When the Machine is to be used, the Globe should be wiped clean, with a clean, dry, warm Flannel, it's Pivots oil'd, and the Cushion and Phial warmed. In damp Weather, there should be a Fire in the Room. p. 4.

Exp. 4. Let an unelectrify'd Plate, with scouring Sand upon it, be held 5 or 6 Inches under an electrify'd Plate, and the Sand will be so attracted and repell'd, as to resemble a stormy Shower. p. 16.

Exp. 7. If a Glass Ball, of 4 or 5 Inches diameter, be hung by a Wire to the Gun-barrel, and a Ball of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an Inch diameter, exceeding thin, placed on a smooth Plate, be brought near it, this will not only be attracted by the large Ball, but will perform continual Revolutions round it, exactly as the Planets do round the Sun. p. 22.

Exp. 9. Hang a Loadstone on the Barrel, and a Key on the Armature of it: And if you bring
your

your Finger near the Key, it will snap and emit Fire. A plain Proof that the electric and magnetic Power no way hinder each other. p. 25.

Exp. 35. A Sparrow kill'd by the electric Shock, was found livid without, as if kill'd with a Flash of Lightning, and most of the Blood Vessels within were burst. Animals shock'd on the Head, if not kill'd, are commonly struck blind. p. 55.

Exp. 41. Ice held by an electrify'd Person, will fire warm Spirits of Wine. p. 61.

Exp. 43. Mr. *Watson* put an Ounce of Oil of Vitriol, an Ounce of Iron Filings, and four Ounces of Water, into a Flask. An Ebullition ensued. An electrify'd Person applied his Finger to the Mouth of the Flask. The Vapour took fire, and burnt out of the Neck a long Time. p. 63.

From an Experiment made by Mr. *Watson*, and others, it appeared that the electric Fire circulated, without interruption, from the *Surry* Side of the *Thames* over *Westminster* Bridge, to the *Westminster* Side, and thence thro' the River to the *Surry* Side again, which is upwards of 800 Yards. Spirits of Wine also were fired at the same Distance.

From this, and several other Experiments, it appeared, that Distance, simply considered, did little, if at all, impair the Force of the electric Shock.

They afterwards convey'd this Shock thro' a Circuit of four Miles, and found the Motion of the electric Fire to be nearly, if not quite, instantaneous.

II. I have been hitherto endeavouring to make Electricity plain : I shall endeavour in the second Place, to make it useful.

I. This ethereal Fire, in its unmixt State, seems too violent an Agent for the human Body to bear. Therefore the wise Author of Nature has provided the Air to temper and adapt it to our Use. So temper'd, it is the grand Instrument of Life: "It gives

gives and preserves," says Bishop *Berkeley*, "a proper Tone to the Vessels. It promotes all Secretions, keeping every Part in Motion : It pervades the whole Animal System, producing great Variety of Effects, various Vibrations in the Solids, and Ferments in the Fluids." Indeed from many Experiments we know, it communicates Activity and Motion to Fluids in general, and particularly accelerates the Motion of the Blood in an human Body. This is quickened three or four Pulses in half a Minute, by a Person only standing on Glass, and being electrified. And it is certain many bodily Disorders may be removed, even by this safe and easy Operation.

2. But because plain Matters of Fact weigh more than nice speculative Reasoning with all who do not obstinately steel themselves against Conviction, I shall, first, briefly specify several Disorders wherein Electrification has been found eminently useful, and then subjoin a few particular Instances.

3. The Disorders in which it has been of unquestionable use, are,

Agues,	Fistula Lacrymalis,
St. Anthony's Fire,	Fits, Ganglions, Gout, Gravel,
Blindness, even from a	Head-Ach,
Gutta Serena,	Hysterics,
Blood extravasated,	Inflammations,
Bronchocele,	King's Evil,
Chlorosis,	Knots in the Flesh,
Coldness in the Feet,	Lameness, Leprosy,
Consumption,	Mortification,
Contractions of the Limbs,	Pain in the Back, in the
Cramp,	Stomach,
Deafness, Dropsy,	Palpitation of the Heart,
Epilepsy,	Palsy, Pleurisy,
Feet violently disorder'd,	Rheumatism,
Felons,	

Ring-

Ringworms,
Sciatica,
Shingles,
Sprain,
Surfeit,

Swellings of all Kinds.
Throat sore,
Toe hurt,
Tooth-Ach,
Wen,

It will be easily observed, that a great Part of these are of the nervous Kind; and perhaps there is no nervous Distemper whatever, which would not yield to a steady Use of this Remedy. It seems therefore to be the grand *Desideratum* in Physic, from which we may expect Relief when all other Relief fails, even in many of the most painful and stubborn Disorders to which the human Frame is liable.

I have scarce known an Instance wherein a few Shocks all over the Body, have failed to cure either a *Quotidian* or *Tertian Ague*.

Anne Heathcot, Daughter of Mr. *Heathcote* Brafter, in *Long Alley*, near *Moorfields*, was seized, in *May* last, with what is commonly called an *Ague in the Head*, having a violent Pain in her Head, Face, and Teeth. After trying abundance of Remedies, to no purpose, she was, in *August*, electrified thro' the Head. Immediately the Pain fix'd in her Teeth. She was electrified four Times more, and has felt nothing of it since.

4 "Having observed," says Mr. *Lovet*, "the great Efficacy of electrical Ether, in soon relieving most Kind of *Inflammations*, I was inclined to think the same Efficacy would appear when it was applied to *St. Anthony's Fire*. But when a Case offered, the Inflammation was so great, that at first I almost despair'd of Success. About Noon I made the first Trial, by drawing off Sparks while the Person was electrified, on the Rosin. Before Night, the angry Swelling was much appeased, and in a few Days quite cured."

5. A

5. A Boy about seven Years old (says Mr. *Floyer*, a Surgeon in *Dorchester*) was taken blind suddenly in both his Eyes, without any previous Pain or Fever. Three or four Days after, he was brought to me. He was as blind as if his Eyes had been cut out. Taking the Case to be a perfect *Gutta Serena* in both Eyes, I told his Parents, it was my Opinion he would never see again. However I determined to try the Electric Shock: And the next Morning, fastening a Wire coming from the Phial to his Leg, and another round his Head, I brought the Latter near the Conductor, and gave him four Shocks successively. That Day he was put to Bed, and continued there, sweating profusely, till the next Morning, when he agreeably alarm'd his Father by crying out, he could see the Window. When he was brought to me the second Time, he could see when I put my Hand between his Eyes and the Light of the Sun. This gave me Encouragement to repeat what we had done the Day before. The next Day he could a little contract and dilate his Eyes; the Third Day he could distinguish Objects; the Fourth, Colours. The Fifth Day, after repeating the Experiment, his Sight was perfectly restor'd, and the Eyes, in every Respect, as well as if no Disorder had happened to them.

6. From a Gentleman in *Newcastle upon Tyne*, I have the following Account. Last Week a poor Man in *Sandgate*, that had been blind twenty-four Years, was led to the Machine. I set him upon the Electrical Board, and drew Sparks for about twenty Minutes from the Pupil of his Eye. After he had rested himself a little, and was able to look up, he told us he could see *Sidgate*, which he had not seen for many Years before. He could also distinguish Objects in the Room, and was able to walk home without a Guide. He came a Second

cond Time, and was so much better, that I imagine he did not think it necessary to come any more.

7. He adds, About the Time I wrote last, a young Woman was cured of a fourteen Years' Blindness. She was able, before she went home, to distinguish one Letter from another.

8. From the same Person, a few days afterwards, I received the following Lines.

"The Cure of the blind Man of *Newcastle*, has spread thro' all the Country ; in consequence of which, I am, much against my Will, become an Oculist.

"I have had several in Hand, and among the rest a Girl, about Seventeen, has been with me about three Weeks. Her Case is owing to a Film, or Skin, grown over her Eyes. It came by the Small-pox about twelve Years ago. Her Friends have had all the Advice, and used all the Means in their Power, but to no Purpose ; except that she has lost her Left Eye irrecoverably by one of the Persons they apply'd to.

"When she came to me, the *Iris* of the Right Eye also was very near covered with a very thick Skin, so that she could do very little more than distinguish Day from Night. It was grown much worse this Winter, and was so Blood-shot and angry, that I told her Mother I could do nothing for her. However she made such a lamentable Complaint, that I consented to try.

"The Method I have taken, is drawing Sparks from her Eye, and sometimes giving Shocks from her Head or Neck, down her Arm, to carry off the frequent Complaints of Pain and Dizziness in her Head ; which never fails of succeeding in about ten Minutes. We have electrify'd her about half an Hour twice every Day. The Skin wastes gradually, and grows thinner and less every Day ;

so that now the Colour of the Eye appears thro' it, except in the Middle, and towards the Nose, where the film at first seem'd twice as thick as the rest. The other Day, as I had her under Hand, she saw the Buttons of my Shirt-sleeve, and of my Coat; and yesterday saw the Teeth of one of her Companions that was laughing at her. But her Eye is so weak, that I advise her to make very little Use of it yet."

9. "A Person having a dark livid Spot under his Eye from a Blow three Days before, it was, in less than a Quarter of an Hour, quite taken away, by drawing the Sparks from the Parts." Mr. L.

Here *extravasated Blood* was manifestly dissolved and resorbed into the Vessels. I have lately known an Instance of this Kind. One, whose Eyes were almost beat out, as they term it, by the same Operation lost all the swelling, and the Blackness too, in twelve Minutes.

10. "A Woman troubled with a *Bronchocele*, the most obstinate of all Swellings, whose Neck was eighteen Inches and one Half about, is already so far relieved, that the largest Part of her Neck is but fifteen Inches and an Half, about the smallest not thirteen. And the Swelling now wastes so fast, that there is Hopes of a perfect Cure." Mr. L.

"She applies the Wire from the Phial to one Side of the Swelling, and laying one End of another Wire to the other Side of it, then guides the other End of that Wire to the electrical Apparatus."

11. *William Jones*, a Plaisterer, living at Mr. *Frazer's*, in *King-street*, *Seven Dials*, fell from a Scaffold on *Thursday*, *Feb. 15* last. He was grievously *bruised*, both outwardly and inwardly, and lay in violent pain utterly helpless, till *Saturday* in the Afternoon, when he was brought (carried) by two Men to be electrified.

After

After a few Minutes he walk'd home alone, and on *Monday* went to work.

Mary Osgathorp had her Foot *bruised* by a Stone falling on it, which occasioned a running Sore. It continued, tho' frequently healed for a Time, upwards of eight Years: But was entirely healed a Month ago by Electrifying, and has never broke out since.

12. A Number of moderate Shocks daily repeated for some Time, effectually cure *Coldness in the Feet*. It does not fail.

13. *Angus M'Innon*, of *Fuller's Rents* in *Holborn*, was afflicted with a violent Cough, till his Strength wasted away, and he had all the Symptoms of a true *Consumption*. He was electrified three Times about eighteen Months ago, and restored to perfect Health.

Elizabeth Collis, a Child of twelve Years old, living with *Mrs. Wragg* in *Windmill Street*, was so far gone in a genuine *Consumption*, that she was judg'd to be quite past Recovery. This Summer she was electrified four Times, and has been quite well ever since.

A man at *Upsal* in *Sweden*, whose Knee-joint had been *contracted* above five Years (originally from an ill-cur'd Rheumatism) was quite restor'd by drawing off Sparks for a few Weeks.

15. "Mrs. *M—— D——*, of *Worcester*, was long afflicted with a most violent *Cramp* in her Legs. This Disorder seized her before she was twenty Years of Age, and continued till she was upwards of Seventy. This was most violent when she was in Bed; at which Time she was forced to tumble out on the Floor, sometimes twice or thrice in the same Night. It was attended with exquisite Pain, bursting the small Blood-vessels, which afterwards appear'd of a livid Hue for a considerable Time.

"She

"She was entirely cured in a few Days, by being electrified once a Day, thus. Having taken off her Shoes, she put one Foot on the End of a Chain, which came from the charg'd Phial, putting the Lower End of a Wire to the other Foot; so that this being touched, both Legs might receive the Shock at once." Mr. L. I never once knew it fail in this Disorder.

16. *Deafness* rising from harden'd Wax, or following a Fever, is cured by only drawing off Sparks. This was frequently tried at *Upsal*. At *Stockholm*, a Gentleman of Distinction, who had been almost deaf a considerable Time with a Singing in his Ears, was perfectly cured in three or four Minutes.

A young Man, who had almost lost his *Hearing* for six Months, by violent Vomitings, which forc'd Blood out of his Ears, was perfectly cured in a few Minutes,

Samuel Jones, Gardener, at *Lambeth Marsh*, in the Year of the great Frost, leap'd into the *Thames* to save a Man from drowning. Hereby he became so deaf of both Ears, that he could not hear any Sound at all, were it ever so near, or ever so loud. In *February* last, after being once electrified, he could hear the Noise of a Coach at some Distance. After the Third Time, he could hear the Sound of the Machine. He came no more; so it is suppos'd he is well.

A Man, fifty-seven Years old, who had been deaf for thirty-two Years, was so far relieved in a few Days, as to hear tolerably well.

A Girl of Seven, born deaf, (who consequently could not speak) began presently to hear Words which were spoken very loud in her Ear, and could repeat some of them in a few Days.

I have known Hearing hereby given to a Man born deaf.

17. "In

17. "In May 1748, came to me one *Mary Smargins*, born in the Island of *Nevis* in the *West-Indies*, 28 Years old. She had been so *deaf* (from a Cold at first) for seventeen Years, as not to hear any one, unless they were very near and spoke loud. Her Deafness had no Intervals. She always heard the least with the left Ear. On Saturday, *May 28*, the Phial being electrified by two Turns of the Wheel only, I applied one Wire to the left Temple, just above the Ear, the other to the opposite Temple. She felt a small Warmth in her Head, chiefly from Ear to Ear. I repeated it four Times, a little stronger each Time. The Warmth increased at each Shock, and tho' I struck her at each Ear alternately, she always felt most Warmth at the deafest Ear. At last she complained of small Twitchings in her Ears, chiefly in that Ear, and cross her Head. No other Part of her Body felt the Shocks. The Warmth increased all Day with Twitchings at Intervals. The next Morning I repeated the Experiments, which then affected her Arms and Body also. The Twitchings were more violent; the Warmth greater round the Ears, chiefly the deafest Ear. These Effects continued all the Day, and she heard considerably better. But toward Evening, by sitting in an open Window, she caught Cold; on which the Warmth left her, and she felt very chill all over her Body. On Monday she was extremely ill, with Pains all over her. On Tuesday she was much better, and felt the same Kind of Warmth round each Ear again. On Wednesday the Noise and beating in her Head, which she had had from the first of her Deafness, much abated. In the Evening a violent shooting went a-cross her Head, from the left to the right Ear. On Thursday I repeated the Experiments. Some Minutes after, blowing her Nose, there issued corrupted Matter with a small Quantity of clotted Blood.

Blood. From this Time she had little Noise or beating in her Head, and heard perfectly well.

She had a great Cold, and her Eyes were much inflamed, when I began the Experiment. But after the first Day's Experiment the Inflammation decreased, and after the Second, was wholly removed.

I was able at first to bear the strongest Shocks. But after repeating them some Weeks, I could hardly bear a small Shock: And a strong one occasioned a violent Convulsion of the Muscles of my Arm and Body.

Upon rubbing with my Hand a Globe, while turning, I have several Times felt a violent Headach. But it always went off upon discontinuing the rubbing. I have known many persons, who found an unusual Pain for some Days after receiving the Shock." Thus far Mr. *Wilson*.

I am surprised at this. For I never yet knew any Person, Man, Woman, or Child, sick or well, who found any such Inconvenience. Only I have known Rheumatic Pains increase on the first or second Trial, which were afterwards perfectly cured.

Mary Baker, Chairwoman, aged 27, living at Mrs. *Hunt's*, in *Neal's Yard*, near the *Seven Dials*, having been long ill of a *Dropsy*, was admitted last Year into *St. George's Hospital*. But on *Nov. 28*, she was discharged out of it as incurable, as she was also from the *Westminster Infirmary*. In Spring last she was electrified, and soon after parted with several Gallons of Water. After being twice more electrified she was well, and able again to earn her Living.

18. It is of great Use in the *Epilepsy* or *Falling Sickness*; unless it be hereditary, and then it does at least no harm.

The

The following Case seems to have been of the *Epileptic* Kind. *E*—— *T*—— of *Worcester* was troubled with a very uncommon Disorder, for ten or eleven Years. The Contraction usually began under her left Breast, and darted thence to her right, and back again to her left Breast and Shoulder. It then struck down to her Elbow, Wrist and Fingers, which were instantly so contracted, that if she had not Time to catch up something in her Hand, the Nail of the Fore-Finger would so wound the Thumb, as to make the Blood run down. The Contraction likewise twisted and drew her Hand behind her, turning it up again to the Shoulder. The Intervals of this terrible disorder were uncertain: Sometimes she had ease for a Month; sometimes she was taken twice in a Day. It would yield to no Medicine, but was by this Method entirely cured in a few Weeks. She stood on the Wire, coming from the Phial, and then touched the Apparatus with a Finger of the Hand affected. By this Means the Fire circulated the nearest Way, thro' the Body to the Arm and Fingers. This was several Times repeated to each Finger. *Mr. L.*

19. *Sarah Bettesworth*, aged 22, then living in *Cow-Lane*, was some Years since seized with so violent Fits, that five or six Men were scarce able to hold her. In Autumn 1756, while she was in one of them, the Apothecary being asked by her Master if he should electrify her? made light of it. However he did so, applying the Bottle to one Shoulder, as she lay on the Ground, and the Wire to the other. On the first Shock her struggling ceased, and she lay still. At the second her Senses returned. After two or three more, she rose in good Health. Some Months after she relapsed, and was electrified again, and again entirely cured. Last Easter she fell into a Fit again, thro' a
Fright.

Fright: But by a few Shocks was cured and restored to Health.

William Matthews, Schoolmaster, aged thirty two, living at the *Foundery*, near *Moorfields*, had *Epileptic* Fits (supposed to be hereditary) from his Birth, till he was six Years old. Thence he was free till Thirteen. They then returned on occasion of a Fright, and continued so to do twice or thrice in a Year, till he was seventeen. From that Time they came almost every Month, till the Year 1753: Since then they usually returned about once in ten or eleven Weeks. In the Middle of *March* last he began to be electrified, both thro' the Head, and from Head to Foot. *April* 4. He had a slight Fit, but from that Time to this, *Nov.* 1, has had none at all. Can all *England* afford such a Cure as this, wrought by a Course of Medicines?

20. "*John Webb* of *Worcester*, seventy Years of Age, was much *disordered in his Feet* for ten or twelve Years. The Pain resembled that of the Gout: And such a *Coldness* attended it as was scarce supportable. If he warmed them by the Fire, they raged still more, as also when they began to be warm in Bed. The Nails of his Toes very frequently dropt off: The Toes in general appeared livid; and frequently large black or bluish Spots were formed at the End of them, or on the Top and Sides of his Feet. These, when they first came, were exceedingly painful; but after a Time grew dry and hard. His Heels likewise were generally puffed up like blown Bladders."

All these Complaints gradually decreased, till they totally went away, by his being electrified once a Day for some Time, and afterwards twice a Week. At first only Sparks were drawn. Afterwards the Chain was brought from the Phial to the Part affected of one Foot; then one End of a Wire

Wire was laid to the Part affected of the other Foot, and the other End of it brought to the Conductor." Mr. L.

21. *Felons* are speedily cured by drawing Sparks. If any disorder be superficial this Operation suffices: But if it lie deeper, then the giving of Shocks is found to be more effectual.

22. "*Ann T*— had a *Fistula* near the inner Corner of her Eye, which healed and broke again seven Times. The last Time it healed, it continued well for some Time. After which it began with a small swelling, till it was as big as a Fil-bird. From the Time she was electrified, by drawing off Sparks, it gradually decreased, till it was entirely dissipated." Mr. L.

Eliz. Johnson, Daughter of Mr. *Johnson*, Gun-maker in the *Tower*, was taken on *New-Years-Day* last, with sharp Pains in her Bowels, which soon threw her into *Convulsion-Fits*. These returned five or six Times a Day, for ten or eleven Days. She was electrified all over, and had no Fit for eight Months. She was then frightened into a Fit. She was again electrified, and continues well.

23. "A young Lady had been affected with *Fits* near seven Years, which seized her without any Warning, and threw her flat on her Face, quite insensible. These frequently returned twice in a Day. This was attended with almost a continual *Coldness* in her Feet. Her Stomach also was much affected. She stood upon a Wire coming from the Coat of the Phial, and to complete the Circuit, another Wire was laid upon her Head, by which Means the Fire was conveyed to that Part. By this Means both the *Fits* and *Coldness* were gradually removed, and a complete Cure effected." Mr. L.

24. "*Eliza*—

24. "*Elizabeth B* — near the *Old Hills*, a few Miles from *Worcester*, had for fifty Years been afflicted with severe *Fits*. They threw her down to the Ground, quite insensible, sometimes twice or thrice a Day. She had tried many Remedies, but to no Purpose. From the latter End of the Year 1752, she received several Shocks. An inveterate Head-ach, which attended her, quickly decreased, and in some Months her *Fits* too totally ceased." Mr. L.

25. Electricity was tried at *Upsal* in three Cases of a *Ganglion*, which it perfectly dispersed.

26. Slight Attacks of the *Gout* are suddenly and effectually removed, by drawing Sparks from the Part affected.

"A Person, who within the Space of two or three Years, had had several Attacks of the *Gout*, since the first of which, he had always a *Stiffness* and *Pain* in the Joint of one of his great Toes, and for a considerable Time in both, was quite cured, by setting him on Rosin, while one on the Floor drew Sparks from the diseased Parts." Mr. L.

William Sinnock, Cabinet-maker, in *Lombard-Court*, *Seven Dials*, was in *Feb.* 1758, seized with sharp Pains in his Feet, which continued three Months, and for six Weeks disabled him from doing any Work. They returned in *February* last. He was electrified twice, and has felt no Pain since.

Thomas Willis, Chairmaker, aged 44, was for many Years afflicted with the *Gravel* in the Kidneys. In *July* last he was electrified twice. After the second Time he parted with a large Quantity of *Gravel*. He was electrified twice more, and has not found the least Complaint since.

27. In very bad *Fits* of the *Head-ach*, I have often, says Mr. L. used this Remedy with surprizing success.

"A.

"A Man of *Bromsgrove*, afflicted for near a Fort-night with a violent and constant *Head-ach*, was twice electrified by a few light Shocks, with half an Hour's Interval, and entirely cured." Mr. L.

A—— T—— of *White-Chappel* had a violent *Head-ach* which continued for seven or eight Weeks. After she was electrified the Pain increased for three Hours. It then gradually decreased, till she was quite well. This proves that it may remove even a Disorder, which at first it seems to increase.

28. *Samuel Rennee*, aged seven, the son of *Richard Rennee*, Weaver, living in *York-Street*, by taking Cold, was seized with a violent *Head-ach*, which continued with short Intermissions for, above a Year. Tuesday *March 8, 1757*, he was moderately electrified all over. The Pain left him from that Hour.

29. "A Man who had a fixed Pain just above his Eye-brow for several Days, was by little Shocks at the Part cured in a few Minutes: So was Mr. *Higgins* of *Worcester*, of a *periodical Head-ach*, which commonly began at five or six in the Evening, and affected him from the Top of his right Temple to his Ear, till he went to bed. This was cured only by drawing Sparks." Mr. L.

"M——t D——s was afflicted with an almost constant, as well as violent Pain in the *hinder Part* of her *Head* for near three Quarters of a Year; especially when she lay down in Bed, being then so intolerable, she could not forbear shrieking. Having used many other Means with no Effect; she was electrified once a Day. This presently relieved (sometimes by Sparks, sometimes light Shocks) and in some Weeks perfectly cured her." Mr. L.

"E—— T—— was troubled for eleven Years with a severe *Head-ach*, which baffled all the Efforts of
Me-

Medicine. By moderate shocks applied to her Head, she was cured in a few Weeks." Mr. L.

30. *Abigail Brown*, aged 22, then living in *Red-Cross-Street*, was from a Child frequently afflicted with a violent *Head-ach*. In *October* 1775, she was electrified five Days successively, having one Wire applied to the fore Part, another to the hinder Part of the Head, and receiving seven or eight Shocks each Time. Hereby she was entirely cured, nor has found any Pain in her Head since, unless occasionally for want of Sleep.

Sarah Webb, Wife of Mr. *Webb*, Tallowchandler in *Grub-Street*, aged 46, was from 20 Years old subject to a violent Pain on the Top of her Head. This frequently obliged her to keep her Bed, nor could any Remedy for it be found. In *December* last she received gentle Shocks from Temple to Temple, and from the Fore-Head to the back of the Head. This was done three Days successively, and she was entirely cured.

31. *Richard Outen*, Rope-Maker, aged 23, living in *Bunhill-Row*, was troubled with a violent *Head-ach* over the Eyes, before he was ten Years old, arising from a Blow on the Head. He was scarce free from it a Month together for above 12 Years. It used to throb and shoot thro' the Head, so that often he was almost distracted. In *December* 1756 he was electrified once, receiving three Shocks, by one Wire applied to the Forehead, and another to the back of the Head. He was worse than ever for some Hours, till he went to Bed, but awaked in the Morning perfectly well: And has continued so ever since.

32. In deep *Hysterical* Cases, the Person ought to sit on the Rosin at least half an Hour every Morning and Evening. At first Sparks may be drawn off; and afterwards Shocks given, more or less, as the Disorder requires. This would seldom fail

fail of the desired Effect, as may well be supposed from the following instances.

"A Young Gentlewoman, about 10 Miles from *Worcester*, sometime after she recovered from a Fever, was seized with violent *Hysterics*, which soon deprived her both of Memory and Understanding. The Fire was conducted thro' her Head by Sparks and Shocks several Times a Day, During the Week she stayed at *Worcester*: In which Time not only her Memory, but her Understanding was perfectly restored.

"Mrs. *Higgins* of *Worcester*, was troubled for above ten Years with an *Hysterical* Disorder, and a *Coldness in her Feet*. From these that Coldness moved gradually up to her Head, in half a Minute's Time, which then seemed a Palsy in the Head. Soon after her Teeth would chatter as in a violent Ague. Thence the shaking proceeded to her Arms, and whole Body, and was so violent, (as *Hysterics* mimic most Distempers) as to resemble *St. Vitus's Dance*.

"Sometimes Sparks were drawn, sometimes Shocks were given; and she stood near half an Hour daily on the Rosin. In less than a Fortnight the Fits went entirely off: And in a While after, the Coldness of the Feet." Mr. *L*.

38. A person had rigid *Knots* in the Thigh like what appear in violent Cramps, but not so hard or painful. These were entirely dissipated in a Minute or two, only by drawing sparks.

34. One at *Upsal* who had lost the Use of his *Limbs* from Cold, for several Years, was in some Weeks quite restored.

One at *Stockholm*, who had used Crutchets for seven Years, could walk without them in thirteen Days.

Eliz. Buttle, Nurse, aged 31, living in *Featherstone-Street*, in *May* last, felt such a pain round her Ankle-

Ankle-bone, that she could scarce set her Foot to the Ground. This grew worse and worse for about a Month. In June she was electrified seven Times round the Ankle, and thrice upon the Knee. Immediately her *Lameness* ceased, with the Pain that occasioned it.

35. *Mary Lallo*, aged 25, then living in *St. Thomas the Apostle's*, when she was a Child, was taken with a *Pain* in the Bone of the left Leg from the Knee to the Bottom of the Foot, which then felt as if a great Weight had been fastened to it. This continued by intervals for many Years. Frequently she could not walk without holding some one, and then in great Agony. In *February* 1757 she received several small Shocks on the Knee, within four or five Minutes. The Pain instantly ceased. She walked home quite well, and has continued so ever since.

A Girl also of 13, who after the small Pox had been lame from four Years old, having been electrified about twenty Times, walked without a Staff.

A young Lady from a strain iu the Knee-Joint, or rather the crural Ligament, was quite disabled from walking. About three Quarters of a Year after, when she came to me, the muscular Part of the Leg was much fallen away, and a continual *Coldness* attended the Foot."

"I ordered her to sit on the Rosin at least half an Hour daily, and to receive several shocks thro' the disordered Part of the Knee. The first Month there was little Effect. In the next there was a visible Alteration for the better. The third, she could walk a few Steps without any Crutch or Staff. In the following month, she seemed quite well, and left off electrifying; but after a Time relapsed. After the Relapse, the Progress of the Cure was more tedious, and it was four or five Months

Months before she could leave her Remedy quite off." She was then totally cured. Mr. L.

36. "A young Woman drinking at a cold Spring when very hot, was seized with a Kind of Fever for a Quarter of a Year. Many red Spots then appeared on her Arms, and soon after a thin dry crusty Substance which appeared rather as Scales than Scabs, from her Elbows down to her Fingers. This *leprous* Disorder (which many call a *Surfeit*) continued near three Years. Indeed it lessened the first and second Winter; but the third was the same as in Summer."

"By drawing Sparks once a Day from the Parts affected, in three Weeks or a Month all the Scales disappeared." Mr. L.

37. "A Gentleman in *Worcester* had a *Mortification*, which began in his Toe, and in spite of all the Means used, gradually increased. He was *shocked*, and the Mortification stopped: But on his neglecting this, it began again; and increased so far that the Case seemed desperate. Yet on his being *Shocked* again thro' the Mortified Part, such a Change appeared as astonished the Surgeon, who owned it had done more good in two Days than had been done in six Weeks before." Mr. L.

38. A Clergyman near *London* had from a Child almost a constant *Pain* in the lower Part of his left Side. He was once electrified by standing with his left Foot on the Chain, and has never felt the Pain since.

James Kitely, of *Lambeth*, had a sharp *Pain* in his left Side about three Years. After being electrified three or four Times, the Pain left him and came no more.

Mary Burges living at the *Tun* in *Knaves-Acre*, had a *Pain* in her Side for seven Years. In *May* last, she was entirely cured the first Time of electrifying.

Michael

Michael Hayes of *King-Street, Westminster*, aged 86, had a violent pain in his left Ankle for near four Years. This sometimes disabled him from walking, which otherwise he could do without any Difficulty. He was electrified thro' the Part, and perfectly cured before he left the room.

39. *Elenor Story*, living in *Clerkenwell Church-Yard*, catching Cold, was seized with *Pain* and Weakness in the small of her *Back*, as if it had been broke. By following the Prescriptions of Dr. L., the Pain after a Fortnight settled in her Shoulder. There it continued so violent, that often she had scarce any use of her Arm. She afterward used abundance of Remedies for above two Years, but all to no effect. On Tuesday *March 24, 1757*, she received two strong Shocks on each Shoulder, which made the Skin red and sore. That Night she was in more Pain than usual, trembled all over, and could get little Sleep. The next Morning she received several Shocks all over, and so on Thursday Morning and Evening. After the second Time her Pain was gone, and she had the full use of both her Arms.

John Read, Cabinet-maker in *Warder-Street*, was for six years afflicted with violent *Pains* in the back of his neck. In Spring 1758, he was electrified about twice a Week for a Month, and quite cured.

40. *Joseph Jones* was taken about *March 12, 1757*, with a violent *Pain in the Stomach*. He received the same day a few gentle Shocks. The Pain went off, and returned no more.

Mary Pelteecree, Warper, living in *Primrose-Street*, was troubled six months with a *Pain in her Stomach and Back*, accompanied with extreme Weakness and Faintness, which made her incapable of her Work. By the advice of a Physician she took many Medicines, but with no effect

Five

Five Weeks ago she was electrified, receiving the Shock thro' the Stomach. This was done for five Days successively. She has been perfectly well ever since.

H—— W——, Throwster, aged 23, living in *Fleet-street, Bednal Green*, not being regular, was taken a Year ago with a violent *Pain in her Stomach*. She had the Advice of a Physician, and took many Medicines; but to no Purpose. At length she was electrified, nine or ten Days, and is in perfect Health.

Ann Wild, of *Round Court*, by taking Cold in Childbirth, contracted a violent *Pain in her Stomach*. After it had continued four Years, she was perfectly cured by twice electrifying.

Mrs. Edwards, living in *Nottingham Court, Shorts-Gardens*, was ill of a *Pain in her Stomach* for eight Years. It often took away her Rest, as well as Appetite, and brought her to the Gates of Death. By once electrifying she was cured.

Elenor Taylor, Mantua-maker, aged 48, living in *King-street, Old-street-square*, was taken in *September 1758*, with a violent *Disorder in her Stomach*, which felt as if it was ready to burst, and often made her sweat to her Fingers' Ends. This continued for upwards of four Months, and gave her little Rest, Day or Night. In *February* following she was seized with the Rheumatism, thro'out the left Side. For this, having quite lost the Use of her left Arm, she came to be electrified. She felt the Shock chiefly in her Stomach, and her Disorder there was cured. After three Days she was electrified again, and cured of the Rheumatism also.

A Gentlewoman in *London* had an almost continual *Pain in her Stomach*, more or less for eight Years. She received one Shock on her Stomach, and was well from that Moment.

41. *Silas Told*, Schoolmaster, aged 48, living in *Christopher's Alley, Moorfields*, in the Year 1741, had a Pleuritic Pain, for which he lost an unusually large Quantity of Blood. Immediately he was seized with a strong *Palpitation of the Heart*, which continued, more or less, without the Intermission of one Day, for more than sixteen Years. In *February 1757*, while I was electrifying for a *Pain in my Stomach* (which was wholly removed by one shock) he came in and said, "My Heart is very bad, and I think I will try it too." He did so, receiving a Shock thro' the Breast, and has been ever since perfectly well.

42. A Citizen of *Upsal*, who was thoroughly *Paralytic*, was perfectly cured only by drawing Sparks.

April 18th, 1756, a remarkable Case happened at *Edinburgh*. *Robert Moubray*, in the beginning of *January* was struck with a *Palsy of the Tongue*, and soon after entirely lost the use of his Speech. Last Week he began being electrified, and by Saturday he was able to put out his Tongue, which before was dead and motionless. On Monday he could speak a little, and on Tuesday he could speak as well as ever.

Thomas Dobson, Leatherpipe-maker, aged 27, living in *Barnaby-street*, was seized with a *Palsy in the Tongue*, on *July 24th* last. It grew worse and worse till Saturday 28, and then quite deprived him of his Speech. He was electrified for five Days, by drawing Sparks from the Tongue, and shocking him all over. And hereby not only his Palsy was cured, but Convulsions also, which he had had for four Years.

"Mr. P. had a Year or two ago a slight Touch of a *Palsy*, On a sudden his Arm dropped down, quite without Strength; and tho' after chafing it well, he recovered the Use of the upper and middle

dle Joint, yet the lower Part was still so weak, that he could by no Means write his Name. But by a few Shocks in the Arm he was effectually relieved.

"The same Person had lately a much worse Stroke. All his right Side was so affected, that he could not walk without two to support him. After he had been electrified three Times, he could walk with the Support of one only, and in a short Time he was perfectly well." He used to stand on the Chain with the right Foot, and touch the Apparatus with his right Hand." Mr. L.

I have not yet known any Instance of this Kind. Many *Paralytics* have been helped: But, I think, scarce any *Palsy* of a Year standing has been thro'ly cured.

43. A Gentlewoman in *London*, who for several Years was never long together without sharp Pains in her Knee, which seemed chiefly *Rheumatical*, was freed from them in a Moment by one single Shock.

John Ramsay, Cabinetmaker, living in the *Strand*, by being very wet, caught a violent Cold, in the latter End of *June* 1756. This occasioned a *Rheumatic Pain*, which fixed in his left Knee. From this he was seldom free for a Week together till *November*. He was then very ill till *February*, being seldom able to do above half a Day's Work, sometimes none for a Week together. He was for ten Weeks an Out-Patient of *St. George's Hospital*; but received no Benefit. On Monday 21st *March* he was electrified thro' the Knee, and four Times more within seven Days. The Pain was removed, and his Sleep, which had been long lost returned, as before he was first taken.

Ann Walter, Servant, aged 22, then living in *Brick-Lane*, *Spittlefields*, was cured entirely of a violent
Rheu-

matis in her left Arm, by being electrified five Times.

A Stone-cutter at *Stockholm*, whose Knees and Joints of his Toes had been rendered stiff, and his Fingers crooked by a Mixture of Gout and *Rheumatism*, after being electrified a few Days, was able to go to Work. It has been found to remove or greatly abate all *Rheumatic* Pains.

Ann Cambell, living in *Queenstreet, Seven Dials*, had a severe *Rheumatism* fourteen Weeks. For nine Weeks she could not dress herself, nor get out of Bed without Help. She had the Advice of several Physicians, but in vain. In Spring, 1758, she was electrified five Times, and thereby restored to full Health.

William Tyler, living at the *Sun* in *Long-lane, Smithfield*, was on *March* 9th last, about three in the Morning, seized with *Rheumatic Pains*, chiefly on his right Side, so violently, that he was as helpless as an Infant, and was frequently constrained to shriek out, like a Woman in Labour. I came before Nine. After the second Shock he felt some Change: After the third he was able to raise himself a little. After two more he rose and walked about the Room, and before Noon he was quite easy and well.

Sarah Guilford, aged 37, living on *Saffron-hill*, was for upwards of seven Years so afflicted with the *Rheumatism* in her right Side, that the Knee and Ankle were wasted exceedingly. *January* 2d last she was electrified, and perfectly cured in one Ray. But it threw her into a profuse Sweat, particularly from those Parts which had been most affected.

Ann Cardiff, Servant, at the *Golden Head, Islington*, aged 40, about sixteen Years ago, was taken with a violent *Rheumatism*, by catching Cold in lying in. It returned every Year, and the last Winter took
away

away the Use of her Limbs. She followed the Advice of several Physicians, till they pronounced her incurable, October 15 last she was electrified, first by general Shocks, then thro' the Parts most affected. The first and the second Time it made her extremely weak and faint. The third Time she was better, and after nine Times all her Weakness and Pains were gone.

Margaret Virgin, Silk-Winder, aged 39, living in *White-Horse-Yard, Seethin-Lane*, was troubled with the *Rheumatism* before she was ten Years old, and more and more till when she was about twelve she was confined to her Bed for near 21 Weeks. From that Time she was seldom free from it, so that many Times she was quite incapable of Business. Last Winter she was so ill as to be forced to quit her Work, not being able to lift an Arm to her Head. In *January* she was electrified twice: The first Time all over: The second Time thro' the left Arm. The use of her Arm was immediately restored. Her Pains entirely left her, and ever since she has been more capable of any Kind of Work than she had been for twenty Years.

Mary Trumbel, of *White-Cross-street*, aged 49, began to be afflicted with the *Rheumatism* before she was 30 Years of Age. It returned in her Shoulders or Head every Winter: And for the three Winters last past so increased, that she could by no Means turn either Arm behind her, and was extremely painful. Last Winter it was worse than ever. A little before Christmas she received five or six small Shocks. Immediately she was easy, recovered the full Use of both Arms, and has retained it ever since.

William G. of the *Little Minories, London*, had been violently afflicted with the *Rheumatism* for many Years. For several Winters he was not able
to

to work. But after having received a few Shocks, in a Quarter of an Hour, all his Complaints vanished away, and he was afterwards as well in Winter as in Summer.

44. Almost all Kind of *Inflammations*, *Ring-worms*, *Tetters*, *Shingles*, as well as most Kinds of *Swellings* may be totally cured by drawing Sparks only.

45. A Lad at *Stockholm*, who had a severe *Sciatica* in the right Hip, so as not to bear being touched, was cured in a few Days.

John Ellison, then an Officer of the Excise, living in *Hunt-street*, *Spittlefields*, was upon catching Cold, seized with a violent *Sciatica*, which held him several Months without Intermission, and frequently almost took away the Use of his Limb. In *August* 1754 he was electrified, receiving two Shocks. His Pain raged the more for four or five Hours ; but afterwards entirely ceased. And from that Time to this he has been perfectly well, without the least Relapse.

“ Mr. R—— S—— of *Worcester*, troubled with a *Suitica* for some Years, was cured at once by Shocks conveyed to the Parts affected. Mr. L.

Mary Butler, aged 86, living in *Eagle-street*, *Red-lion-square*, having been afflicted with the *Sciatica* for more than twenty Years, was last Month electrified ten or twelve Times, and has been easy ever since.

It seems the Electric Fire in Cases of this and of many other Kinds, dilates the minute Vessels, and capillary Passages, as well as separates the clogging Particles of the stagnating Fluids. By accelerating likewise the Motion of the Blood, it removes many Obstructions.

46. *Thomas Nevil*, Weaver, aged 26, living at the Bottom of *Vine Court*, *Spittlefields*; when about 16 Years of Age, *sprained* his Loins so violently, that

that from that Time he found a continual Weakness, frequent Pains, and an Inability to do any hard Work. On Thursday *March* 10th, 1757, he was electrified, receiving five or six Shocks thro' the Parts affected. When he went home he felt no Pain, but much Soreness on the Part, on which a red Spot appeared, like a small Pin's Head. But the next Morning he was perfectly well, and has been ever since stronger than before the first Hurt.

Francis Halfpenny, Taylor, aged 30, living in *Redcross-street, Southwark*, when about 18 Years old had a Fall from a Tree. By this he received such a Sprain, that he could not walk twenty Yards unless exceeding slow, without a gnawing, aking Pain down his Thigh. About the middle of *September* last he was electrified thro' the upper Part of the Thigh. This was repeated at five or six different Times. The first Shock removed the Pain down to the Knee. At the third electrifying it went quite away. And since that Time he has been full as well as he was before his Fall.

47. "*E— H— of Tedny*, had a very painful swelling in the Ball of her great Toe for some Years. Having made use of many other Means in vain, she was at length electrified. After the first Operation (by drawing Sparks) the Pain was much abated: And in a short Time the swelling disappeared and the Pain left her."

"*Mr. Joshua W— of Pershore*, was troubled for seven or eight Years with a Pain in his second Toe. Tho' nothing was to be seen, it was as tender as a Boil, and the Pain was so great, particularly in walking, that he at length determined to have it cut off. By drawing Sparks he was cured in an Hour."

"A Gentleman of *Worcester* ran a Bodkin into the Side of his Hand, near the fore and middle Fingers.

gers. The Wound was no more than the Prick of a large Pin, yet in three or four Days a *swelling* came both in the Palm and on the Back of the Hand.

"The fifth Day a Surgeon was called, who for three Months dressed both the Inside and the Outside of the Hand to no Purpose. A Caustic was then applied ; but with no more Success than all the other Means.

"Finding no Alteration, nor Likelyhood of any, he was electrified twice (by drawing off Sparks) on the Inside of his Hand, at the Bottom of the middle Finger. In four Days it broke, and in about three Weeks healed. Mr. L.

Jane Davison, Quilter, aged 26, living in *Quaker-street*, had about six Years ago a violent Tooth-ach, which occasioned a *swelling* in her right Cheek. This continued gradually increasing on the Inside of the Cheek, till it grew into an hard fleshy Lump. Desparing of any Help, she let it alone, till last Month she was persuaded to be electrified. She received several strong Shocks thro' the Part. After this was done the first Time, the swelling not only increased exceedingly, but was violently painful. The next Day, the other Cheek likewise swelled, and that swelling spread thro' the upper Lip, across the Mouth. Nevertheless she was electrified again. Two or three Days after it broke, and for two Days together, discharged abundance of purulent Matter mixt with Blood. But in a few Days the Wound was entirely healed, and all the swelling gone.

48. "*E— T—* taking cold, was seized with a *sore Throat*, which grew worse and worse for six Days. She then could not swallow even a Bit of Bread soaked in Tea. The same Morning she was electrified, so as to direct the Shock in a right Line thro' the Part affected. By the Time she got home she

she could eat any Thing. Two Shocks more made a perfect Cure."

49. "The *Tooth-ach*, if proceeding from a scorbutic Habit, from hollow Teeth, or from a De-fluxion of Rheum, is presently assuaged or totally removed by this Remedy.

"This may frequently be done by drawing Sparks from the Tooth or Cheek: In more stubborn Cases, by moderate Shocks. The sooner you touch the Phial, the weaker the Shock: So that you may lessen or increase it at Pleasure.

"In giving the Shock the most effectual Way, is, to bring one Wire under the Chin and Tooth, (if it be on the under Side) and lay the end of the other Wire on the Top of the Tooth. If it be on the upper Side, bring one wire to the Top of the Head over the Tooth, and apply the other to the Bottom of it. Mr. L.

Sarah Ellison, the wife of *John Ellison* above mentioned, caught Cold in lying in, which fixed a sharp *Pain* in her *Teeth*, and the side of her Face. She used all Manner of Means to remove this for upwards of six Years. Among many others she had at several Times, three Teeth drawn, and was fourteen Times blistered, but without Effect. In *July 1714*, she received six Shocks thro' her Head. The Pain ceased immediately, and returned no more.

50. "A Person had a swelling, supposed to be a *Wen*, between the Neck and the Shoulder-Blade as big as an Egg, and nearly as hard, which had been growing to that Size for several Years. She had not been electrified many Times (by drawing Sparks for five or six minutes every Day) before it began to soften. Soon after it discharged a thin Humour thro' a small Orifice, and continued discharging and softening more and more, till it was entirely dissipated." Mr. L.

51. Whoever desires to see a more circumstantial Account of many of the preceding Cases, with the Names of most of the Patients and their Places of Abode, may consult Mr. *Lovett's* Treatise. It is wrote not only with admirable Judgment, but with an excellent Spirit. A Principle of Benevolence to Human Kind may be easily observed to breathe thro' the whole: Nor can any lightly condemn it, but those whose Interest naturally leads them to decry whatever would lessen their own Gain.

52. After relating these Cures, Mr. *L.* himself adds, "I can't deny but I was much astonished, at seeing such mighty Things performed by Electricity. But after having attentively considered the Nature of Electric Ether, its great Subtilty and Power, its active and enlivening Qualities, and its mighty Tendency to accelerate the Motion of the Fluids in general, and of the Blood in particular:" (I would add, and to pervade the finest Arteries and Nerves, to dilate their obstructed or contracted Orifices; as well as to restore the Tone of any Muscle or Fibre, which is either impaired or destroyed :) "I concluded that all those surprising Effects were no more than the necessary Consequences of so powerful an Agent, when thus determined, and directed. And the helping us in our bodily Infirmities, was *one* great End it was ordained to serve," (probably *the* great End) "after it had been thus fully and plainly discovered to us."

53. It were greatly to be wished, that the Gentlemen of the Faculty would strictly examine the Nature, Properties, and Effects of this sovereign Remedy. For such it unquestionably is, particularly in nervous Cases: Even in those Cases, which the common *Materia Medica* will in no wise reach. But it is not to be expected. They must not disoblige their good Friends the Apothecaries. Neither

can.

can it consist with their own Interest, to make (altho' not every Man) yet so many Men their own Physicians, which would be the unavoidable Consequence, if a regular System of practical Rules were formed from a Process of Experiments, whereby a sensible Man might judge in what Cases it would cure, and in what not: And in what Manner it might be most effectually applied in any Case wherein it was proper.

In order to prevent any ill Effect, these two Cautions should always be remembered. First, let not the Shock be too violent; rather let several small Shocks be given. Secondly, do not give a Shock to the whole Body, when only a particular Part is affected. If it be given to the Part affected only, little Harm can follow even from a violent Shock.

For instance. In a *Palsy of the Tongue*, the Shock may be given to the Tongue only by applying one Wire to the hinder Part of the Neck, and another to the Tongue. And if in any Case there be Danger of too great a Shock, it may easily be prevented.

It is highly probable, a timely use of this Means might prevent before they were thro'ly formed, and frequently even then remove some of the most painful and dangerous Distempers: *Cancers* and *scrophulous Tumours* in particular; tho' they will yield to no other Medicine yet discovered. It is certain, nothing is so likely, by accelerating the contained Fluids, to dilate and open the Passages, as well as divide the coagulated Particles of the Blood, that so the Circulation may be again performed. And it is a Doubt, whether it would not be of more use, even in *Mortifications*, than either the Bark or any other Medicine.

Before I conclude, I would beg one Thing (if it be not too great a Favour) from the Gentlemen of the Faculty, and indeed from all who desire
Health

Health and Freedom from Pain, either for themselves or their Neighbours. It is, That none of them would condemn they know not what: That they would hear the Cause, before they pass Sentence: That they would not peremptorily pronounce against Electricity, while they know little or nothing about it. Rather let every candid Man take a little Pains, to understand the Question before he determines it. Let him for two or three Weeks (at least) try it himself in the above-named Disorders. And then his own Senses will shew him, whether it is a mere Play-thing, or the noblest Medicine yet known in the World.

F I N I S.

APPENDIX

TO

THE SECOND EDITION.

—o—

THE ELECTRICITY OF MODERN TIMES.

IN deference to the wishes kindly expressed by many of the reviewers of the first edition of this little work, which was simply a reproduction *verbatim et literatim* of Wesley's remarkable Essay upon the subject, that the ideas then foreshadowed should be worked out to some practical purpose, and supplemented by the experiences of modern authorities, we have given in as short and concise a form as possible, consistent with the magnitude of the subject, a History of Electricity from those days to the present, quoting impartially extracts from the most competent writers, without reference to country or language, giving credit to those to whom it is honestly due, for their useful hints, or for light they have thrown in any way upon the progress of the science, or for their inventions tending to the better application of Electricity in its curative powers; and we sincerely trust that the reader will not condemn from ignorance or hearsay that of which he knows nothing; but if he is an honest searcher after knowledge, as was Wesley, and like him, is anxious to aid in the general relief of suffering

suffering humanity, he will find in the subject an inexhaustible mine, into which, the deeper he digs, the greater and more lasting will be his reward.

It was not until Wesley's original ideas on the future destiny of Electricity as a curative agent were promulgated that the science of Electro-therapeucy and Electro-physiology was recognized. With this the most illustrious names of the present century are intimately associated—Humboldt, Pfaff, Fechner, Dubois-Raymond, &c., in Germany; Magendie, Longet, Claude-Bernard, Duchenne, Delarive, &c., in France; Faraday, Marshall-Hall, Golding-Bird, Thompson, Radcliffe, Russell Reynolds, and others in England, whilst the most recent and decidedly very valuable treatise appears this month in America from the pens of Drs. Beard and Rockwell, all of whom, by following in the footsteps of the illustrious Italian initiators, Galvani, Volta, Aldini, and Matteuci, have converted the healing art into such an exact science that most of the former difficulties and obscurities in which the functions of life were veiled, have, through their enlightened investigations, been cleared away.

The discoveries of Galvani, resulting from his elaborate experiments upon frogs, at the end of the last century, showed for the first time the existence of animal or vital Electricity, thus laying the foundation for the science of Electro-physiology, whilst his contemporary, Volta, at the beginning of the present century, by his discovery of the voltaic pile, created a new source of Electricity, which, being on the one hand endowed with peculiar chymical, physical, and physiological properties, not possessed by the frictional Electricity, had on the other hand the farther advantages of being easily manageable, and independent of the action of the atmosphere. This voltaic pile, consequently, although constructed in a very primitive style, and necessarily defective, yet gave results at once encouraging and edifying, especially to those
who

who had despaired of the Electricity produced by the frictional machines, in consequence of the impracticability of such appliances for curative purposes, which it required the persevering genius of a Wesley to overcome.

In spite of the defects of the original voltaic pile, its application has been steadily persevered in during the interregnum. The discovery by Faraday of the inductional currents, which gave to the world the coil-machine, replaced the original pile of Volta for medical purposes most advantageously, so far as its practical applicability was concerned, but many of the properties inherent in the primary currents of the voltaic pile were thus sacrificed by the conversion of the chymical Electricity into Electricity of high tension, which is of a similar character to frictional electricity. Hence the desideratum for a source of voltaic Electricity was keenly felt by the well-informed medical electricians, when Mr. Pulvermacher succeeded with his inventions of "Voltaic-chain batteries," by means of which the primary voltaic current of high tension is produced in the most simple and practical manner, so simple, indeed, that it can be placed in the hands of the uninitiated with the utmost confidence as to its results. Various modifications have been successfully introduced by this inventor, who applies the voltaic principle to the construction of a galvanic chain band, destined to be worn on the body, for giving a permanent supply of a continuous but gentle current of Electricity, which, besides being more agreeable, is in the majority of cases endowed with higher healing properties.

Considering that twenty years have passed since this invention was first given to the world, and the many encomiums it has since elicited from the greatest authorities of various countries, as may be seen by the citations appended, we can but marvel that it is not yet found in the hands of all medical practitioners.

practitioners, who, to their own and their patients' benefit, would be enabled to turn into good account the astounding healing properties of Electricity by simply availing themselves of its assistance.

This last invention, relieved as it is from the complications of the old clumsy machines and heavy batteries, with their corrosive acids, is the veritable realization of a universal requirement, and gives to suffering humanity to the fullest extent all the relief afforded by the beneficent and marvellous curative agency of Electricity.

May we not be justified in attributing the professional indifference to which we have just adverted to the same causes so strikingly indicated in the following leading article on Medical Electricity, taken from the *Medical Press and Circular* of June 7th. 1871 ?

"The republication of a very interesting relic on the subject of Electricity, written by John Wesley one hundred and twenty years since, furnishes us with a most fertile source of reference, and suggestions which derive a new interest in the light of the progress which the science has made since that period. It gives us, firstly, an insight into the obstacles with which experimentalists of that time had to contend, by being compelled to conduct their investigations with the frictional machine—the only then known means of producing Electricity. With such an instrument, and with so many natural obstacles, one cannot but admire the persevering application benevolent motives alone could have prompted, with which the gifted author of this treatise and others connected with him at that time must have laboured. In the preface to the work before mentioned, Wesley administers a very severe rebuke to the medical profession of his time, a censure which is in our own day reiterated in the most recently published work on the subject of Curative Electricity, by Drs. Beard and Rockwell,

Rockwell, two great authorities in America. At page 110 of this latter work the following passage occurs :

“ ‘Although many of these experimenters were outsiders from the profession, although they had no part nor lot in the realm of science, and although many of them were as devoid of conscience as of intellect, yet we should none the less eagerly seek for and accept whatever of truth they may have stumbled upon or discovered. In the history of science it has often been the fortune of the ignorant and the lowly to hit by chance on some great fact for which the wisdom of the ages has sought in vain ; especially has this been the case in therapeutics. Truly says Dr. Stillé, *‘Nearly every medicine has become a popular remedy before being adopted, or even tried by physicians.’* ”

“ ‘Impartial history must, we think, record, that before Duchenne and Remak were known on either side of the Atlantic, before our most recent Electrotherapeutists had commenced their professional labours or studies, there were in this land not a few empirics, who, by some form of general or localized Electrization, or both combined, or by methods various and inconsistent, and in spite of their own ignorance or vice, were achieving successes in the treatment of disease by Electrization, which in certain features even the most advanced physicians of our day have not yet surpassed, more than a century since.

“ ‘If they did not belong to the chosen ranks of the profession, it is none the less true that the results which they secured were oftentimes such as the ablest leaders in science might well have envied. If their methods were empirical, their empiricism was often justified by its success.’

“ The analogy between these remarks and those of Wesley’s is almost prophetic. He says :

“ ‘I am not greatly concerned for the philosophical part, whether it stand or fall. I am much more concerned for the physical part, knowing of how great importance

importance this is—how much sickness and pain may be prevented or removed, and how many lives saved by this unparalleled remedy. And yet with what vehemence has it been opposed? Sometimes by treating it with contempt, as if it were of little or no use; sometimes by arguments, such as they were; and sometimes by such cautions against its ill effects as made thousands afraid to meddle with it.' . . . 'Not that all disorders will yield thereto. Neither in this any more than the common way will the same treatment of the same disorder in different persons have always the same success. Indeed, there cannot be in Nature any such thing as an absolute *panacea*, a medicine that will cure every disease incident to the human body.' . . . 'Mr. Lovett is of opinion, "the electrical method of treating disorders cannot be expected to arrive at any considerable degree of perfection till administered and applied by the gentlemen of the Faculty." Nay, then, *quantà de spe decidi!* All my hopes are at an end. For when will it be administered and applied by them? Truly, *ad Græcas Calendas*. Not till the gentlemen of the Faculty have more regard to the interest of their neighbours than their own. At least, not till there are no apothecaries in the land, *or till physicians are independent of them.*'

"The foregoing quotations will be sufficient to show what were the opinions of one of the foremost men in civilization at the time when the Faradaic induction machines for the *intermittent current*, and the galvanic batteries for the *continuous current* (so conveniently applicable by Pulvermacher's chain-bands and batteries) were not discovered. And when we compare these words with the remarks of Drs. Beard and Rockwell, elicited at the present time, when medical science is in possession of all the physiological discoveries of the last century—discoveries which give us the precise indication of those cases where the
intermittent

intermittent current and where the continuous current are specially applicable ; we are compelled to acknowledge that, in this country also at the present day the medical profession is still open, though in a lesser degree perhaps, to the rebuke administered to it by Wesley for indifference to the Electro-curative art, an indifference which consigns to outsiders and quacks what ought to be our province alone, for the interest of our patients and our own benefit."

May we not also without presumption suggest to those who are the guardians of public health and well-being that it is incumbent upon them to utilize the employment of so excellent a mode of administering Electricity instead of leaving it to the sufferer to seek out his own remedy, and apply it in an imperfect manner, because he finds his medical practitioner stands aloof and discourages its use ?

Taking into account the frequent successes obtained by patients from the self-application of Pulvermacher's invention, we cannot help inferring that greater results even than these would be the happy consequence if medical advisers would themselves prescribe and superintend the application of this Heaven-sent restorer.

Much credit would thus be deservedly reaped by the profession, and the glorious era would the sooner arrive

" When pain and sickness shall flee away !"

—o—
July, 1871.
 —o—

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MR. J. L. PULVERMACHER has the pleasure to announce that his persevering endeavours to improve his Medico-Galvanic System of Flexible Voltaic Batteries in the practical form of Chain-Bands, &c., have been crowned with most complete success, and that he has been honoured with a flattering Testimonial (dated 9th March, 1866), signed by the most distinguished medical authorities in London, including the following gentlemen. (The original of this and other Testimonials can be seen at any time at his Establishment):—

“We, the undersigned, have much pleasure in testifying that Mr. J. L. PULVERMACHER’S recent improvements in his Voltaic Batteries and Galvanic Appliances for Medical Purposes are of great importance to Scientific Medicine, and that he is entitled to the consideration and support of every one disposed to further the advancement of real and useful progress :”—

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The following additional Testimonials from the highest Medical Authorities and Scientific Works will be read with interest :—

DR. C. HANDFIELD JONES, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Physician to St. Mary's Hospital, writes :—

49 Green Street, Park Lane, W.,
March 10th, 1866.

I have seen some of Mr. PULVERMACHER's inventions for the application of the continuous galvanic current to the human body in various morbid states, and I am very much disposed to think that his Apparatus may prove to be of great importance and value to medical practitioners, especially in its latest improved form. I am satisfied that he is an honest and earnest labourer in the field of Science, and I think that he deserves to meet with every encouragement from the profession and from scientific men.

ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE, PARIS.

Extract of a Report of a Meeting on the 1st April, 1851. Commissioners : Messrs. BERARD, BOUVIER, GAULTIER DE CLAUVERY, GUENEAU DE MUSSY, LONGET, POISSENILLE. Reporter : M. SOUBEYRAN.

"The Voltaic Chains of Mr. Pulvermacher are really a most wonderful apparatus. It is astonishing to see these little piles, made of pieces of wire arranged with perfect regularity, adapting themselves to the form of the body and capable of producing under this small volume the most surprising effects.

"They unite henceforward two advantages, which no other apparatus has possessed until now ; they are more portable and cheaper, two indispensable conditions in an apparatus of this description, in order to make the application of electricity, as yet so little known, *more general*, and to a certain degree *popular, which is certainly very desirable in the interest of patients, as well as of the profession*. In this respect the Chains of Mr. Pulvermacher will have a *great future*.

"The Commission begs to propose to the Academy to address their thanks to Mr. Pulvermacher for his most interesting communication. Adopted."—*Bulletin de l'Academie*, Tome XVI., No. 13.

ACADEMIE DE MEDECINE, PARIS.

Unanimous Vote of Thanks to the Inventor.

"The *Perpetual Secretary* of the Academy to J. L. PULVERMACHER, Esq.

"Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the Committee appointed by the Academy to investigate the merits of the portable Hydro-Electric Chain invented by you, read its report to the Academy on Tuesday last, through the medium of Dr. Soubeyran.

"The Academy, after having heard this report, has charged me to offer you *its unanimous thanks for your important communication*.

"Receive, Sir, the assurance of my distinguished regard,

"DUBOIS."

Extract of a letter from Dr. DUBOIS, Secretary of the Paris Academy of Medicine, to Dr. BERARD, Dean of the Faculty, 8th June, 1850.

"I beg you to examine and to try by experiments the Voltaic Chains which will be presented to you by * * *. *I have seen nothing more ingenious, more portable, more powerful, &c.*"

Dr. J. PEREIRA, F.R.S., F.L.S., &c., in his "Materia Medica," page 53. 1854. Fourth Edition.

"The application of the Voltaic Circuit has been largely prescribed, and has become a popular remedy in the form of Pulvermacher's Galvanic Chains. They should be worn so as to encircle the part affected, in cases of Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c. They are regarded by practitioners as a valuable and convenient means of applying the continuous voltaic current." And in an autograph testimonial he writes, "I have great pleasure in stating that I consider Pulvermacher's Patent Portable Hydro-Electric Chain Batteries to be a very convenient and effective form of voltaic apparatus for medical purposes."

Dr. GOLDING BIRD, A.M., F.R.S., F.L.S., &c. (late Physician to, and Lecturer on Therapeutics at, Guy's Hospital), LANCET, Vol. II., xvii., 1851, originally occupying three columns.

"The ingenious Galvanic Chain of Mr. Pulvermacher has attracted so much attention that an account of its value may prove interesting. . . . Shocks are not required to develop physiological phenomena or therapeutical effects, as the laborious researches of Dr. Marshall Hall have long since proved, and it is only to the mild continuous voltaic current that we must look for a vast development of therapeutical influence." And in an autograph testimonial he says: We have in this ingenious invention what has long been a desideratum—viz., an apparatus of the smallest possible bulk, capable of evolving a continuous or uninterrupted current of electricity of moderate tension, and always, in one direction, without the expense, bulk, and great inconvenience of the Cruikshank trough, or the cell arrangements. I can hardly recommend Mr. Pulvermacher's invention too strongly to my medical brethren."

Dr. J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, F.R.C.P., Physician to the University College Hospital, &c. Extract from LANCET, December 3rd, 1859, page 588.

"Remarkable Cure of Paralysis of the Right Arm of W. F—, aged 57, effected by the Pulvermacher Chain."

"Stoppage of the violent agitation of the arm directly the Chain was administered, and the influence is maintained over the patient, enabling him in five minutes to execute voluntary movements; restoration of temperature in the affected arm, and perfect cure of the patient, empowering him to write in a quick, legible hand. No medicine of any kind was given."

Sir C. LOCOCK (Physician to Her Majesty). LANCET, March 6th, 1858.

"I have seen water decomposed by the Chains, even after the current has passed through the body." And in an autograph testimonial, dated the 9th day of March, 1866, he says, "Mr. Pulvermacher's recent improvements in his Voltaic Batteries and Galvanic Appliances for medical purposes are of great importance to scientific medicine, and he is entitled to the consideration and support of everyone disposed to further the advancement of real and useful progress."

Dr. C. HANDFIELD JONES, F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Physician to St. Mary's Hospital, "On Functional and Nervous Disorders," published by Churchill 1864. Page 264.

"The following history may serve as example: A male, aged 57, came under Dr. R. Reynolds' care, suffering with vertigo and general disturbance, with paralytic tremor of the whole right upper limb. The sensibility was unaffected. After five applications of a 120-link Pulvermacher's Chain, each lasting an hour, the spontaneous jactitation completely ceased. By continuing the same treatment every other day, the power of the arm was almost quite restored in a month." And in an autograph testimonial, dated the 10th March, 1866, he says: "I am very much disposed to think that Mr. Pulvermacher's apparatus may prove to be of great importance and value to medical practitioners, especially in its latest improved form. I am satisfied that he is an honest and earnest labourer in the field of science, and I think that he deserves to meet with every encouragement from the profession and from scientific men."

Dr. THOMPSON, who, in his "Domestic Medicine," pp. 216, 326, and 443, says:—

"Lastly, I can speak from my own experience, that the Chains confer speedy relief in neuralgia; and I have seen wonderful cures effected by them in rheumatism, sciatica, ear-ache, and nervous pains;" and he states, "in cases of suspended animation in infants (new born), Electricity is unquestionably a powerful restorative, but hitherto the difficulties attending its ready application just at the moment have rendered it almost unavailable. Now, however, the newly invented Electric Chains of Pulvermacher will probably place in the hands of the accoucheur, and, from their simplicity, even of others, a readily applicable source of the above powerful stimulant."

JOHN C. THOROWGOOD, M.D., Memb. Col. Physicians. Assistant Physician City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, 15 Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square.

"My experience of the use of Pulvermacher's Galvanic Chain-bands, in the treatment of chronic hoarseness and loss of voice, has been satisfactory and encouraging. With no exception, I have found the patients desirous to continue the use of the Chains, as giving more relief than any other means they had ever tried."

T. W. NUNN, Esq., Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, &c.,
Stratford Place, W. Nov., 1865.

"I have in the wards of the Middlesex Hospital, demonstrated repeatedly the advantage of the galvanic stimulus in the treatment of obstinate sinuses and sluggish cutaneous ulcerations. Your invention is the most convenient one I am acquainted with for the purpose of applying the galvanic current, and I consider you are entitled to favourable testimony in respect of it,—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
THOMAS W. NUNN.

PROFESSOR DE LA RIVE (five pages, 604 to 689, Vol. iii.) :—

"PULVERMACHER'S CHAINS are voltaic batteries of a very ingenious form, and are endowed with a very powerful electric tension. There are two kinds." (Here follows the description.) "To sum up, we believe that when we desire to apply electricity in the state of continuous current the best plan is to make use of Pulvermacher's Batteries, and when the object is to obtain high tension, which is the case in the kind of application with which we are now occupied."

DR. C. GARRATT, of Boston, U.S., in his "Electro-Physiology and Electro-Therapeutics," p. 117.

"Pulvermacher's Chain (better known in Europe) is a very remarkable miniature voltaic pile. The pairs of this consist," &c. ; and, "For fastening it about the body or limb, apply the gold buckle over the spine, and the silver buckle over the seat of the disease." In his introduction, Dr. Garratt says, "Vitality is more than electricity. Life is electro-chymistry vitalized. This greatest force of nature, viz., electricity, which also holds such varied and powerful influence over life, health, and disease, does assuredly command our more attentive study, in connection with other rational medicine."

The LANCET, No. 1, Vol. II., 1856.

"This ingenious apparatus of Mr. Pulvermacher has now stood the test for some years. The simplicity and efficacy are so easily determined, that it commends itself at once to every one who will take the trouble to make a single experiment with it. . . . It may be used by the medical attendant, or by the patient himself. Several ingenious additions have been made to the original chain, and the operator can now diffuse the galvanic influence over an extensive surface, or concentrate it on a single point. In these days of medico-galvanic quackery it is a relief to observe the very plain and straightforward manner in which Mr. Pulvermacher's apparatus is recommended to the profession."

Extract from an article on "Medical Galvanism" in the
MEDICAL PRESS AND CIRCULAR, June 7, 1871.

". . . The galvanic batteries for the *continuous current* (so conveniently applicable by Pulvermacher's chain-bands and batteries), were not then discovered. . . ."

DR. C. B. RADCLIFFE, F.R.C.P. "Epileptic and other Convulsive Affections of the Nervous System." 1861. 3rd ed., p. 180.

"I am also inclined to think that the new Electric Band of Mr. Pulvermacher may be an important help towards recovery in the case of some epileptics."

Extract from the "Dictionary of Medical and Surgical Knowledge." 1863.

"Mr. Pulvermacher, of Regent Street, however deeply impressed with the importance of Galvanism as a therapeutic and medical agent, and having profoundly studied the subject, devoted himself to the discovery of what may be called a *portable* electricity; and, after much reflection, and many years of devoted perseverance, at last brought to a state of perfection an apparatus by which any case of disease might be treated by his Medical Galvano-Filine Chain Band, or Belt, as safely and as easily as by any of the ordinary systems of medicine now in vogue, and often with more decided success.

"As many persons might question the truth of a fact of which their senses of sight and feeling give them no corroborative proof, Mr. Pulvermacher has invented a *delicate little* TEST INSTRUMENT, to which, if the opposite ends or poles of two Belts or Flexible Batteries are applied, the other ends being held in the hands, the galvanic current passing through the body will be seen to *decompose the water in the tube* before him. This is not only an elegant and conclusive experiment of the circulation of the galvanic current, but it is a highly interesting and instructive illustration of the *decomposition of water* by medical Galvanism.

"The diseases in which medical galvanism affords the most gratifying proof of its efficacy are all Neuralgic Affections, such as Tic-Doloureux, Toothache, Sciatica, Paralysis, Epilepsy, Hysteria, Cramp, Spasm, and Tetanus; Rheumatism, Gout, Dimness of Sight, Deafness, Asthma, and a host of others."

"The Family Doctor : a Dictionary of Domestic Medicine and Surgery." By a Dispensing Surgeon. Page 310.

". . . . The Electric Chain, or Belt, of Pulvermacher is also a recent mode of application of Electro-Galvanism to curative purposes, and worthy of comment. We have seen good effects produced by both these appliances in Neuralgia and other cases."

"The Practice of Medicine." By DR. TANNER, M.D., F.L.S. 5th Edition. 1865. Page 314.

"As regards the remedies for Paralysis Agitans, I can say a cure has been effected by the employment of the Continuous Galvanic Current, such as may be derived from a Pulvermacher's Chain Battery of 120 links." And at page 349, with regard to Neuralgia. "When *no disease of the nervous centres*, and where the affected

nerve is not irritated by inflammation or by the pressure of some morbid growth, the use of a continuous current of Galvanic Electricity (such as can be obtained from one of Pulvermacher's Chains) may diminish the morbid exaltation of sensibility, and so lead to a cure."

"The Laryngoscope in Diseases of the Throat." By SIR GEORGE DUNCAN GIBB, M.D., Bart., L.D., Member Royal College of Physicians, Assistant Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminster Hospital, Senior Vice-President Medical Society of London. Page III, 2nd Edition. 1867.

"In many cases where the voice has been restored by Galvanism applied in the manner directed, it becomes fleeting and uncertain, from impaired nervous power. This can be obviated by wearing one of Pulvermacher's Necklaces round one-half of the neck, which keeps up a mild continuous stream of Electricity, which is extremely beneficial, and renders the voice permanent."

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Now that by Electrolysis we can decompose and eliminate from the blood foreign substances, the result either of disease or of accident, which have hitherto bid defiance to all other remedies, and that the curative powers of Electricity are daily more recognized by the Profession, your inventions must become an universal requisition.

GEORGE DOWN, M.D., M.R.C.S., &c., &c.

To J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq.

25 Connaught Square, Nov., 1865.

I have frequently used Pulvermacher's Chain Batteries, which are very portable, easily excited, and give a sufficiently strong current for all medical purposes. I can, therefore, testify to the great merit of this useful invention.

RICHARD MOORE LAWRENCE, M.D.
Physician, Great Northern Hospital.

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